

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1881.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

NORMAL SCHOOL OF SCIENCE and ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES, South Kensington and Jermyn-street.—The SCHOOL will OPEN on MONDAY, October 3rd.—The Prospectus may be obtained on application, by letter, to the SECRETARY, Science and Art Department, South Kensington, S.W.

SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS, DUBLIN.
OCTOBER 3rd to 8th.

President.—The Right Hon. LORD O'HAGAN.

President of the Congress.

1. Jurisprudence.—The Right Hon. J. T. Ball, LL.D.
2. Education.—Sir Patrick Joseph Keenan, K.C.M.G. C.B.
3. Health.—Charles Cameron, Esq., M.D. LL.D. M.P.
4. Economy.—Goldwin Smith, Esq.
5. Arts.—Right Hon. Viscount Powerscourt.

Information as to the reading of Papers, which should be sent to the Secretary in London not later than the 16th September—and other particulars may be had at the Offices, 1, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C., and New Buildings, Trinity College, Dublin.

1, Adam-street, W.C. J. L. CLIFFORD-SMITH, Secretary.

ACADEMY for the HIGHER DEVELOPMENT of PIANOFORTE PLAYING.
12, Hyde-street, Manchester-square, W.
President.—FRANKLIN TAYLOR, Director.—OSCAR BERINGER, Pianoforte.—Walter Rache, Theodor Franzen, J. S. Shedlock, B.A., and Oscar Beringer, Harmony, Counterpoint, and Composition.—E. Proust, B.A., and K. J. Hopper, Two Pianoforte and One Harmony Lessons weekly, Five Six Guineas per term. NEXT TERM commences SEPTEMBER 26th. Entrance Days, September 21, 22, from Ten to Five. The Academy is for Amateur and Professional Students.—For Prospectuses and all particulars address the Director.

BERLIN CONSERVATORY of MUSIC, 136 and 137, Potsdamer Strasse (Director, XAVIER SCHARWENKA), will be OPENED on October 1st of this year. The instruction embraces all theoretical and practical branches of Music as an Art and Science. Applications from Pupils (both Male and Female) to be addressed to the Director.
For Foreigners respectable Lodgings can be recommended.—All other particulars are given in the Prospectus, to be had, free of charge, from Messrs. J. & Co., 86, Newgate-street; Foubert's place, Regent-street; and St. Regent-street. XAVIER SCHARWENKA, Director, Berlin, 136 and 137, Potsdamer Strasse.

SHEPHERD BROS.' PICTURE GALLERIES.
LONDON 27, King-street, St. James's.
NOTTINGHAM 6, Market-place.
HARROGATE 3, Royal Parade.
BUXTON The Pavilion.

MR. HENRY BLACKBURN'S LECTURES.—Mr. HENRY BLACKBURN, Editor of 'Academy Notes,' will continue his Popular ART-LECTURES, commencing in OCTOBER, at Manchester (Royal Institution), October 3rd and 5th; at Leeds, Bradford, Hull, Huddersfield, Macclesfield, Middleborough, Leicester, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Nottingham, Derby, &c. In Scotland in February.—For particulars and dates address 103, Victoria-street, S.W.

FINE ARTS.—Mr. J. R. DICKSEE'S CLASSES for LADIES for the Study of the DRAPED LIVING MODEL, &c., will RE-ASSEMBLE on September 26th. Prospectuses.—6, Fitzroy-square.

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PRACTICAL HINTS on PROOF-READING.—The Illustrated Article on Proof-Reading, in the ORACLE of August 27th, has been Reprinted separately. A Single Copy can be had by sending stamped-address wrapper.—H. J. KELLY, 160, Fleet-street, E.C.

LODGING and LEARNING.—ROOMS for STUDENT (University man preferred) near Hampstead Heath. Moderate terms, fresh air, fine view, quiet. Fellow lodger competent to give assistance in Literature and Philosophy.—Address BARRETT, M.A., Post-Office, Hampstead.

LINACRE PROFESSORSHIP of PHYSIOLOGY in the UNIVERSITY of OXFORD.—The ELECTION for the Linacre Professorship of Physiology intend to ELECT a PROFESSOR, to succeed the late Dr. Rolleston, in the month of NOVEMBER NEXT.

Candidates are requested to forward their Names and testimonials before NOVEMBER 1st, to the WARDEN of Merton College, Oxford, and to endorse the words 'Linacre Professorship' on the Envelopes enclosing such application.

A Paper, containing Extracts from the Statutes regulating the Professorship, may be procured from the CLARENDON PRESS DEPARTMENT, 115, High-street, Oxford.

NOTES and QUERIES.—'The FIGHT at DAME EUROPA'S SCHOOL,' and the Literature connected with it. A Series of Papers on this subject, by F. Madan, Esq., M.A., Oxford, will be commenced in NOTES and QUERIES for SATURDAY NEXT, September 24th.—JOHN FRANCIS, 20, Wellington-street, Strand.

PRIVATE TUTOR.—An Oxford First Classman desires ENGAGEMENT. Classics and Four Modern Languages. Mathematics (Elementary), seven years' experience.—Address R. G. I., care of May's Advertising Offices, 159, Piccadilly.

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Pupils will be enrolled at the High School on THURSDAY, the 29th, and FRIDAY, the 30th September, from Twelve till Three o'clock. The SCHOOL RE-ASSEMBLES on MONDAY, 2nd October, at Nine o'clock.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.
The SESSION of the FACULTY of MEDICINE will begin on OCTOBER 30th.

The SESSION of the FACULTIES of ARTS and LAWS and of SCIENCE will begin on OCTOBER 4th.

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The EXAMINATIONS for the ENTRANCE EXHIBITIONS will be held on the 28th and 29th of SEPTEMBER.

The SCHOOL for BOYS will RE-OPEN on SEPTEMBER 27th. The College is close to the Gower-street Station of the Metropolitan Railway.

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BEDFORD COLLEGE (for LADIES, 8 and 9, York-place, Portman-square, London.—The SESSION will begin on THURSDAY, October 12th. ONE ABERNETHY SCHOLARSHIP will be awarded by OPEN COMPETITION.—Prospectuses, with particulars of Scholarships, Honours, &c., may be had at the College. F. KENSINGTON, Hon. Sec.

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TRINITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—The NEW SESSION will commence on MONDAY, September 20th, when Students can be received for the DAY or EVENING CLASSES in (1) The Theory and Practice of Music; (2) Department of Literature and Science.

Intending Students in Vocal or Instrumental Subjects are requested to attend on MONDAY, September 19, with Music (of their own selection). Prospectuses may be had of the SECRETARY, Trinity College, Mandeville-place, Manchester-square, W. By ORDER of the ACADEMICAL BOARD.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, MANCHESTER.—The PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION of the UNIVERSITY will be held at the OWENS COLLEGE, on TUESDAY, October 4th, and the Following Days. The Registrar will be present for the purpose of Matriculating Students at the Owens College, on SATURDAY, October 1st, from 10 to 12, and on MONDAY, October 3rd, from 2 to 4 p.m. Copies of the Regulations, &c., for Degrees will be forwarded on application. R. ADAMSON, Registrar.

THE MASON SCIENCE COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.—SESSION 1881-82.

I. DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND ARTS. The SESSION will commence on MONDAY, the 3rd of October, 1881. Students under sixteen years of age will be required to pass a Preliminary Examination.

2. EVENING CLASSES. These will commence on WEDNESDAY, the 5th of October, 1881. The Calendar of the ensuing Session, containing full information as to the aims and objects of the College, and the Courses of Instruction, is now ready, and may be obtained from the Publishers, Messrs. Cornish Brothers, Birmingham and Manchester, price 1s. GEORGE H. MORLEY, Secretary.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL, Hyde Park Corner, W.

The WINTER SESSION will commence on MONDAY, October 3, with an INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS, by Mr. J. WARRINGTON HAWKARD, at Four p.m.

A Prospectus of the School and further information may be obtained by personal application, between One and Three p.m., or by letter addressed to the DEAN, at the Hospital.

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DESCRIPTIVE GEOMETRY, DRAWING, ENGINEERING, and SURVEYING.—Professor Pigot, C.E. M.R.I.A.

EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS (Theoretical and Practical).—Professor Barrett, F.R.S. F.R.S.

MINING and MINERALOGY.—Professor O'Reilly, C.E. M.R.I.A.

BOTANY.—Professor M'Nab, M.D. F.R.S.

ZOOLOGY.—Professor Haddon, M.A.

GEOLOGY.—Professor Hull, M.A. F.R.S. L.D.

PALEONTOLOGY.—Mr. Baily, F.G.S. M.R.I.A.

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Fee for Chemical Laboratory, 2s. per Month, or 12s. for Session. Fee for Physical Laboratory, 1s. per Month, or 6s. for Session. Fee for Drawing School, 3s. for Session.

The Session commences on MONDAY, OCTOBER 3. Programmes may be obtained on application at the College, or by letter or post-card, addressed to the Secretary, Royal College of Science, Stephen's Green, Dublin.

Professor J. P. O'REILLY, Secretary pro tem.

THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.—The WINTER SESSION will OPEN on MONDAY, October 3, with an INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS by Dr. R. DOUGLAS POWELL.—The Medical School, which has lately been considerably enlarged, provides the most complete means for the Education of Students preparing for the University of London, the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and the other Licensing Bodies.

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Further information may be obtained from the DEAN or the RESIDENT MEDICAL OFFICERS, at the Hospital. ANDREW CLARK, DEAN.

GUY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—OPEN SCHOLARSHIPS.—A Scholarship of the value of 125 Guineas will be offered for Open Competition on MONDAY, September 20th. Subjects of Examination: Classics, Mathematics, and Modern Languages. A Second Scholarship, also of the value of 125 Guineas, will be offered for Open Competition on the same day. Subjects of Examination: Inorganic Chemistry, Physics, Botany, and Zoology.—For further particulars apply to the DEAN, Guy's Hospital, S.E.

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The WINTER SESSION will begin on MONDAY, October 3, 1881. Students can reside in the College, within the Hospital Walls, subject to the College Regulations.—For further particulars apply, personally or by letter, to the Warden of the College, the College, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

A Handbook forwarded on application.

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TWO SCHOLARSHIPS of the value of 1300, each, tenable for One Year, will be competed for on September 20th, and three succeeding days. One of the value of 1300, will be awarded to the best candidate at this Examination under twenty years of age, if of sufficient merit. For the other candidates must be under twenty-five years of age.

The Subjects of Examination are Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology. The Jefferson Exhibition will be competed for at the same time. The Subjects of Examination are Latin, Mathematics, and any two of the three following languages: Greek, French, German. This is an Open Exhibition of the value of 500.

Candidates must not have entered to the Medical or Surgical Practice of any Metropolitan Medical School.

The successful candidates will be required to enter at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in the October succeeding the Examination.

For particulars application may be made to the WARDEN of the College, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

VIVISECTION.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

The HOME SECRETARY has REFUSED CERTIFICATES to Professor Fraser, Dr. Lauder Brunton, and Professor Lister, for carrying on Investigations which they declare to be of "the highest value to Medical Science."

GEORGE B. JESSE, Honorary Secretary, &c., Society for the Abolition of Vivisection. Henbury, near Macclesfield, Cheshire, 10th September, 1881.

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LITERATURE

Introduction to English History. By S. R. Gardiner and J. B. Mullinger. (C. Kegan Paul & Co.)

THE publication of this volume indicates a growing interest in the scientific study of English history. Genuine historical students—students, that is, who regard their subject from the scientific rather than from the literary point of view—are in this country unfortunately few and far between. Exclusive reliance on original authorities or careful examination of their relative value was till lately considered by the public at large as the mark of a timid and grovelling temper, altogether unfit for the historian. As for the ordinary reader of historical books, reference to anything so dull as a chronicle was altogether alien to his tastes, if it did not make too great a demand upon his time. Even if an historian made real and constant use of such assistance, he had to keep the fact as much as possible in the background. An historical work was regarded as a building whose first duty it was to look well, from which all scaffolding had to be cleared away, and of which the foundations were to be carefully kept out of sight. No one can fail to be struck by the contrast in this respect between English writers of the first half of this century or the latter part of the last and those of the modern German school or English historians of the present day. Without implying for a moment that literary conditions or objects are to be neglected, we must allow that the introduction of a more scientific spirit, due in great measure to the labours of such men as Ranke, Freeman, and Stubbs, was absolutely necessary in order to elevate history to the rank of a serious study. That it is the first duty of an historian to tell the truth is now much more generally acknowledged than it was a generation ago. And this scientific spirit has penetrated to the professionals to the amateurs, so that readers in general have begun to see the value, and not only the value but the interest, that is to be found in original research. The sceptical and scientific spirit of the age has doubtless had much to do with this change. If the physiologist who gives nothing but his results,

without mentioning the experiments from which they were deduced, runs the risk of being scouted as an impostor, the historian who quotes no authorities, or who does not, at least, make a pretence of having examined them, will fail to produce conviction. Consequently, the bases of our historical faith are now much more carefully studied, and the books in which they are contained are no longer as inaccessible to the ordinary student as they were a short time ago. The publications of the Camden and other societies, the Rolls Series, and other collections have brought all the important authorities for early and mediæval English history within the reach of most readers. But until lately the student was left almost entirely without a guide to this labyrinth. The books, though printed and published, remained unread except by professionals, because no one who did not make it the study of his life could tell where to begin. The great catalogue published by Sir T. D. Hardy in the Rolls Series is itself a formidable work. It is too large and expensive to be widely useful, and it restricts itself to authorities anterior to the invention of printing. Mr. Green and Mr. Bright, in their popular histories, made some advancement towards satisfying this want. A list of authorities on English history, printed alphabetically, is given in the compilation called 'Annals of England.' Still there was no book which performed for students of English history the task so admirably executed in Germany by Dahlmann's 'Quellenkunde.' The want of such a work was long a blot on English historical literature, and showed a radical misconception of the true scope and nature of history. But the want no longer exists. Mr. Gardiner, in his 'Early Chronicles,' published a short time back, attempted to do for the earlier part of our history what Mr. Mullinger, in the volume before us, has now essayed to do for the whole. We welcome his work with all possible gratitude. Within the space of two hundred pages Mr. Mullinger has given a very full and useful list of authorities on English history, with notices of the more important sources of information on Scotch, Welsh, and Irish history as well. The authorities noticed are both ancient and modern, contemporary and subsequent. The list extends from the earliest times to the present day, and on all the more weighty authorities or collections Mr. Mullinger has commented at considerable length. At the foot of the page the titles of the books mentioned in the text are given in full, with the name of the publisher and the date of the latest or best edition. With respect to the general objects of the work, it will be best to quote Mr. Mullinger's own words.

"It has been my first aim," he says, "to distinguish the contemporary sources of information for each period from those of later times,—a distinction of primary importance in historical study. In the next place, I have endeavoured, wherever practicable, to supply such an amount of comment as will enable the student to form a fairly accurate notion of each author's value as an authority. In so doing I have sought to be strictly impartial, and simply to place before the reader the main conclusions of the most recent and approved criticism."

These aims Mr. Mullinger has consistently kept in view, and the result is a very handy and useful book. The reader will not

expect to find an exhaustive list of authorities. Had such been intended, either the book would have been much larger or the comments would have had to be omitted. Nor is there any account of manuscript authorities. "Investigations of this character," says Mr. Mullinger, "would be undertaken only by those who were themselves designing to write history, for whom the present volume is not intended." It is perhaps a pity that Mr. Mullinger has purposely omitted such authors as Hume and Sharon Turner. Although, as he says, "they are, for the purposes of research, become obsolete," they nevertheless have their value. Hume in particular, in spite of his partiality and other defects, has merits which should still secure him a place on the shelves of every student. This, however, is but a small blemish, if any, and to such well-known books, at any rate, the reader hardly needs a guide.

The earlier part of the volume consists of a general sketch of English history by Mr. Gardiner, filling exactly the same space as that occupied by Mr. Mullinger's list of authorities. Of this part of the work it is impossible to speak in terms of too high praise. It may, indeed, be questioned whether Mr. Gardiner's treatise will be very useful as an "introduction," for it will be only partially understood by any one who has not a considerable acquaintance with the subject. Its merits cannot be apparent to the mere beginner, for its brevity forbids the insertion of those statements, narratives, and explanations which are indispensable in such a case. To compress the history of England into two hundred pages, to touch, however briefly, on all the most important points, to summarize the causes and results of great movements, to pass judgments on the great men who have influenced our national development, is no easy task; and, when it is performed, the result will hardly be appreciated by one who does not know the facts of which the author is speaking. But, apart from the object with which this treatise may have been written, there can be no doubt that it will be of the greatest service to every reader of English history to have such a summary of his subject from such a hand, as soon as he knows the elements of his subject. It is, indeed, a masterly sketch, which few, if any other, living authors could have given; for few, if any, are gifted at once with Mr. Gardiner's impartiality, his breadth of view, his soundness, and his radical respect for facts. To say much that would be new on such a subject and in so brief a space is hardly possible, and Mr. Gardiner does not strain after novelty at the expense of truth. Nevertheless, though novelty in detail is not to be looked for, the book as a whole is new and original in the highest sense. We know of no book in which so much truth respecting English history is brought together, in which all alloy of inaccuracy, uncertainty, and partiality is so scrupulously kept out. Consisting as it does entirely of views, generalizations, and conclusions, the book may nevertheless be trusted as implicitly as if it were a mere chronicle of historical events. Mr. Gardiner says little of foreign affairs, of literature, or of social matters, though he does not omit to notice these when of political importance. It would be impossible in a treatise of this

kind to give equal weight to all departments of the vast subject he has in hand. He confines himself to political history, and that the political history of England. But in this department, far the most important of all, there is no event of importance on which he has not touched, and about them all he seems to us to say the right thing—the thing that ought to be generally believed. Nothing in history is more important than impartiality; and in this book, where it would be so easy to be partial, Mr. Gardiner has entirely avoided the error. English and Norman, pope and king, layman and ecclesiastic, Catholic and Puritan, monarchy and Parliament, Whig and Tory, are all alike subjected to the criticism of an impartial mind, and Mr. Gardiner points out the faults and virtues of each according to his deserts. After impartiality few things are more important than a due sense of proportion, and this sense Mr. Gardiner has in a marked degree. He shows it by what he omits as well as by what he inserts. He is not led away by his unrivalled knowledge of one particular period to give that period an unfair share of space or attention, and no one would guess from this book that he had devoted the main part of his life to a study of the seventeenth century. There is wonderful evenness and continuity about the book—a similarity of treatment which marks the work of a man who has the subject well in hand, and can regard it as one connected whole. And with all this—some readers may be inclined to say in spite of all this—the book is eminently readable and interesting. The style is clear, nervous, and often epigrammatic. There is no straining after effect, no effort to be picturesque, but the effect is there; and the impression left on the reader's mind of men, movements, or states of feeling is vivid and correct. It is not, perhaps, what is called a brilliant style, but it is a style excellently suited for its purpose—a sober and philosophical, yet broad and popular, judgment of national events.

Mr. Gardiner has divided his subject into a dozen or so of chapters, corresponding to the divisions which Mr. Mullinger has adopted in his list of authorities, and to well-marked epochs of the national history. He begins with an introductory chapter, mainly on the Roman Empire and the Christian Church, as the two great forces which created the civilization that met the barbarians on their invasion of the West. He draws a striking contrast between the Asiatic monarchy, the Athenian republic, and the Roman Empire, pointing out how, while the first of these represented government without a constitution, and the second a constitution without government, the Romans succeeded in combining the two elements, and in forming a system which embodied a real government and a free constitution. The influence of the Church on the Empire, its survival, and its middle position between the Empire and barbarism—"more Roman than the conquerors, if less Roman than Rome"—form a convenient transition to "the English settlement and the English kingship." Mr. Gardiner holds, in spite of Mr. Coote, that the English invasion practically destroyed the Celtic population and the influence of Rome, and we see no reason to differ from his conclusion. He gives an

admirable sketch of the early English political system and of the growth of monarchical power. He notes in a striking way the beginnings of feudalism in England in the presence of two elements in the council and the army—the personal followers, the *gesiths* or *thegns*, on the one hand, and on the other the independent nobility and the national militia. True fairness and insight are shown in his view of the early monastic system: "The monk represented not indeed the best ideal of life, but the best ideal of the kind of life most opposed to the faults of contemporary existence."

In speaking of the Norman Conquest Mr. Gardiner compares the fall of England at Senlac with the fall of Germany at Canossa—both were results of the great reaction in the eleventh century of the South against the North. The history of the long quarrel between the civil and ecclesiastical powers is clearly and impartially traced. The necessity of the protest against simony and clerical marriage is pointed out, and we are made to understand the moral and social conditions which justified the attempt to raise a universal Church above states and nations. At the same time full justice is done to Henry II., and it is well said that he combined in his legislation the appeal to national energy and patriotism which characterized Athens with the appeal to special talent and official capacity which characterized Rome. In speaking of parliamentary organization in the thirteenth century, Mr. Gardiner, without going into details, lays his finger at once upon the really important points of the Great Charter—the simultaneous appearance of national unity and a popular demand for constitutional government. He marks clearly the difference between the aristocratic movement of 1258 and the popular movement of 1264, as well as the connexion of the latter with the reforms of Edward I. If constitutional affairs come in for the largest share of attention in the thirteenth century, it is equally right that the growth of the Third Estate should absorb most space in the fourteenth. The attractiveness and hollowness of chivalry are well confronted with the misery of the lower classes and the results of the Black Death. We are led to see the reasons of Wyclif's failure as an ecclesiastical and a political reformer, and an interesting comparison is drawn between the revolution of 1399 and that of 1688. On the conclusion of the Middle Ages Mr. Gardiner has some excellent remarks. "History," he says, "knows no violent breaches of continuity, no new monarchy established on the ruins of the old. The kingship of Henry VII. was but the kingship of Henry II. and Edward I. adapted to the needs of a different generation." We wish we had space to quote the whole passage, in which Mr. Gardiner shows how these needs "profoundly modified the character of the monarchy itself." To our mind one of the best portions of the book is that which treats of the Tudor monarchy. Mr. Gardiner has well described the diversified but intensely national life of England in the sixteenth century, and has placed the power of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth on its right basis in showing how they represented that life in all its diversity and its nationality. He strongly condemns the departure of

Edward VI.'s government from Henry VIII.'s principles. "The shouts which welcomed Mary," he says, "expressed the resolution of the nation to submit no longer to a handful of religious theorists, supported by an unprincipled band of robbers who chose to style themselves a government." But the reaction under Mary is regarded as equally disastrous. "Mary's death, like Edward's, came at a moment fortunate for herself, when a revolution was preparing to sweep away all that she held most dear." The Elizabethan compromise is regarded from the right point of view, and justified in the name of expediency.

"To those who were neither Catholics nor Calvinists, the predominance of the commonwealth over every other form of association formed an ideal which was almost a religion, and of this commonwealth the queen herself became the embodiment..... Her strength lay in her representative character."

In describing the cosmopolitanism of England in the reign of Elizabeth, Mr. Gardiner very aptly quotes what Portia says of her English lover, and remarks that "the words were true in a larger sense." We may, however, take leave to differ from him when he says, "Literature looked for its models to Italy." Whatever may be said of other branches of literature, this is scarcely true of the most national and representative and the most important branch, the English drama. It is needless to say that the period which Mr. Gardiner has made his own, the earlier half of the seventeenth century, is as well treated as other portions of the book; but nowhere, perhaps, has the impartial and sober historian been better displayed, as it was nowhere easier for him to fail, than in balancing the claims of king and Parliament to our respect. At the same time the author's own sympathies are clearly in favour of the Parliament on the whole; for he would have studied history to comparatively little purpose if he had not found out that there is such a thing as the political development of a nation, and did not sympathize with the men who work in the direction of that development rather than with those who oppose it. We are unable altogether to agree with his remark on the Revolution settlement, that "Pym's ideas were at last to be realized." Pym doubtless hoped for parliamentary government, but he would hardly have looked with favour on the aristocratic government which followed the Revolution. The House of Commons of the eighteenth century was not a House over which he would have felt happy to preside. But the results of the Revolution—the free press and the free pulpit, cabinet government, and the effacement of the Tory party—are admirably sketched in Mr. Gardiner's pages. He does not sympathize much with the rule of the great families, still less with the means by which they governed; but he rightly allows that "the aristocracy ruled because it was fittest to rule," and attributes its power not so much to bribery and corruption as to the fact that the middle and lower classes had but few grievances and no political ideal. A chapter on the restoration of authority, containing excellent sketches of Wesley and Chatham, of Burke and William Pitt, and followed by a short sketch of the effects of the French Revolution, brings the work to a close. We can cordially recom-

commend Mr. Gardiner's book as characterized to a very unusual extent by sound judgment and scrupulous accuracy, by clearness, conciseness, and impartiality. Some of our readers may think that such a book must fail in the one thing needful, that it cannot be what they call interesting; but we can assure them that it is. Mr. Gardiner's treatise and Mr. Mullinger's list of authorities together embody the best results and the best tendencies of English historical research.

Eugene Onéguine: a Romance of Russian Life in Verse. By Alexander Pushkin. Translated from the Russian by Lieut.-Col. Spalding. (Macmillan & Co.)

THAT Alexander Pushkin was a writer of a high order there can be no doubt, and the universal consent of his fellow countrymen entitles him to be styled the first of Russian poets. But this distinction conveys no very definite idea to the foreign mind. When the Pushkin memorial was unveiled last year at Moscow, the occasion gave rise to such an amount of laudation in Russian prints as was quite sufficient to prove that the poet has been rapturously accepted as a prophet in his own country. But out of that country little seems to be known of his works—at least, of those written in verse. Col. Spalding has now come forward with a translation of his principal poem in order that English readers may have an opportunity of judging for themselves of the merits of the Russian writer. We are inclined to be doubtful as to the success of his undertaking. He is entitled to high praise for the pains he has taken, and for the faithful manner in which he has rendered the Russian original. But metrical versions, even when correct, may too often be described in the terms which the author of 'Eugene Onéguine' applies to his own Russian version of the letter which his heroine is supposed to have written in French:—

A print without the picture's grace,
Or, as it were, the 'Freischütz' score
Strummed by a timid schoolgirl o'er.

With the simple plot of Pushkin's "romance of Russian life," and with the four characters which he portrays, English readers will find no difficulty in becoming acquainted through the medium of the present translation. Whether justice has been done to the original in other respects may be doubted, for Col. Spalding's verses can scarcely be called melodious. Of this he appears to be not altogether unconscious. "If some of the versification is rough and wanting in *go*," he says, "I must plead in excuse the difficult form of the stanza, and in many instances the inelastic nature of the subject-matter to be versified." Perhaps the best way of dealing with his work will be to quote one of his stanzas, and compare it with M. Paul Bésau's prose version of the same passage. We will select for the purpose a part of the account of the duel in which Onéguine kills his friend Lensky. The combat, we may observe, is admirably described by the Russian author, and the English translator has succeeded in rendering its details with a fidelity which is most remarkable, the difficulties of rhyme and metre with which he

had to contend being taken into account. Here is the French version of the moral reflections which the Russian poet appends to his narrative of the fatal encounter:—

"C'est un plaisir de piquer un ennemi par une audacieuse épigramme; c'est un plaisir de le surprendre se regardant au miroir, avec toutes ses laideurs, sans se reconnaître. C'est un plaisir plus grand encore, s'il s'écrie bêtement: C'est moi! Mais croyez-vous, amis, qu'il soit plus doux encore de lui préparer une tombe silencieuse, de viser lentement son front pâle à une distance raisonnable, et enfin de l'envoyer rejoindre ses aïeux?"

The last few lines do not quite correctly convey the author's meaning. Col. Spalding's version is more literal, but its final couplet is somewhat obscure and open to misconception:—

'Tis sweet the foe to aggravate
With epigrams impertinent,
Sweet to behold him obstinate,
His butting horns in anger bent,
The glass unwittingly inspect
And blush to own himself reflect.
Sweeter it is, my friends, if he
Howl like a dolt: 'tis meant for me!
But sweeter still it is to arrange
For him an honourable grave,
At his pale brow a shot to have,
Placed at the customary range;
But home his body to despatch
Can scarce in sweetness be a match.

The idea is, of course, that it is pleasant to vex one's foe, and still pleasanter to have a shot at him; but that "to send him off to his fathers will scarcely be a pleasure to you."

By way of another specimen we may quote the stanza in which the poet takes leave of his readers, trusting that the wish expressed by the author may be fulfilled in the case of his painstaking interpreter:—

Reader, whoever thou mayst be,
Poeman or friend, I do aspire
To part in amity with thee!
Adieu! whate'er thou didst desire
From careless stanzas such as these,
Of passion reminiscences,
Pictures of the amusing scene,
Repose from labour, satire keen,
Or faults of grammar on its page—
God grant that all who herein glance,
In serious mood or dalliance
Or in a squabble to engage,
May find a crumb to satisfy.
Now we must separate. Good-bye!

History of the Queen's City of Edinburgh Rifle Volunteer Brigade, with Accounts of the City of Edinburgh and Mid-Lothian Rifle Association, the Scottish Twenty Club, &c. By William Stephen. (Blackwood & Sons.)

THIS monograph could not have appeared at a more fitting time than the present. The recent reviews by the Queen have greatly increased the interest of the public in the volunteer movement, and the regiment which is the theme of the book under review was a few weeks ago noticeable as one of the finest, and was the strongest, of the corps which defiled before Her Majesty in front of Holyrood Palace. The author only claims for it that it is at once a representative regiment and one of the earliest enrolled. The history of a corps, however efficient, would not of itself prove attractive to the general reader, but Mr. Stephen has succeeded in interweaving somewhat the history of the regiment with that of the volunteer movement generally, and has thus enlarged the area of interest. The people of Edinburgh have generally been tolerably

ready to fight, and at Flodden the Lord Provost and many influential citizens were killed. In 1580 all the inhabitants capable of bearing arms were formed into companies of about fifty men each, which were chiefly employed in keeping the peace. In 1626 the Common Council, being alarmed by the critical state of the times, organized the citizens in eight companies of about two hundred men each. Towards the end of Charles II.'s reign a company was raised by the city authorities. It was supported by voluntary contributions, and the Lord Provost for the time was always captain. This body became known as the Town Guard, and endeavoured to maintain order till 1806, when the new Police Act came into operation. On the 19th of March, 1689, within four hours, Lord Leven raised in Edinburgh a regiment of eight hundred men, afterwards called the 25th Borderers. At Killiecrankie, soon after its formation, it was the only regiment which stood its ground. On this account the magistrates of Edinburgh conferred upon it the special privilege of beating up for recruits at any time without obtaining the permission of the Lord Provost. In 1715, when Edinburgh was threatened by 1,500 Highlanders under Brigadier MacIntosh, the Town Guard was increased; the trained bands assembled; and an additional force of four hundred volunteers was embodied for forty days' service. In 1745 a regiment of four hundred volunteers was hastily raised, but when Prince Charles's army approached the volunteers could not be induced to meet the enemy, and delivered up their arms to the governor of the castle. Mr. Stephen adds:—

"In justice to this force, however, it must be mentioned that a good many of them were afterwards present at the battle of Falkirk and Prestonpans. At the former they were taken prisoners, and confined in the castle of Doune, but afterwards managed to escape. Among them, it may be mentioned, were William Robertson the historian and John Home, the talented author of the tragedy of 'Douglas.'"

When the American War of Independence raged, not only did Edinburgh raise a regiment of the line, called the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, but in 1781 organized a company of volunteers from the mercantile and professional classes of the city. This body, which at first was only one hundred strong, was called the Edinburgh Defensive Band. The Lord Provost was honorary colonel, and in 1782 the Town Council presented a pair of colours. At the close of the war the Defensive Band was disbanded. In 1794 an army of volunteers sprang into existence, and with varying numbers remained in existence—the brief cessation of hostilities secured by the peace of Amiens excepted—till 1815. At one time there were no fewer than 500,000 volunteers enrolled, organized, and more or less drilled. One of the first regiments raised was the Edinburgh Volunteers. Soon afterwards a second battalion was formed, and also another regiment called the Royal Highland Volunteers, the total force of volunteers supplied by the city being 2,300 infantry, 300 artillery, and 100 cavalry.

"The drill of these volunteers was far more frequent and strict than it is with those of the present day. They had generally, under a penalty, to turn out every morning and every night, summer and winter."

The penalties for non-attendance inflicted in those days were substantial. In August, 1805, a Mr. Thomas Johnson was fined by the Mayor of Liverpool 274*l.* 4*s.* for failing to be present at the drills of his corps. At the peace of Amiens all the volunteers in the country were disbanded, but on the breaking out of hostilities afresh they were again enrolled. In the Edinburgh Light Horse served Sir Walter Scott. In the 1st Edinburgh Volunteers were many eminent men, such as Cockburn, Jeffrey, and Horner. Though disbanded at the end of the great war, the 1st Edinburgh Volunteers were called up for duty during the disturbances in the manufacturing districts in 1819-20, and the garrison of the castle being sent against the rioters, their place was daily taken by one hundred of the regiment. In 1847 appeared the famous letter from the Duke of Wellington to Sir John Burgoyne on the defenceless state of England. This practically sowed the seed of the volunteer movement. Capt. Hans Busk had greatly contributed to prepare the soil, having begun his patriotic task as early as 1837. The first fruit was the formation of the 1st Devonshire Rifles in March, 1852. The next on the list were the Victoria Rifles, organized in August, 1853. Both corps had, however, in the beginning rather the character of rifle clubs than of volunteer regiments. During the Crimean War, and again during the Indian Mutiny, strenuous efforts were made to induce the Government to sanction and encourage a general volunteer movement, but without success, Lord Panmure stating in 1857 that "the Government had determined not to sanction the formation of volunteer corps." Two years later, the peace of Europe being threatened, our relations with France being strained, and an insolent letter from some French colonels having been published, public opinion overcame the opposition of the authorities, and on the 12th of May, 1859, Lord Derby's Government issued a circular sanctioning the enrolment of volunteer corps. The result was astounding. In a very short time there was formed an army of 150,000 volunteers, armed, clothed, and equipped at their own expense, the State at first contributing nothing. Edinburgh was among the most active in raising volunteers, and on the 31st of August, 1859, official intimation was given that the services of the City of Edinburgh Volunteer Rifles had been accepted. The regiment consisted of ten companies, and it stood eleventh on the roll of seniority. An excellent body of officers was elected—for at first each corps elected its own officers. Amusing circumstances sometimes accompanied the elections:—

"We have an instance of an English company meeting for the purpose of electing officers, and on an intimation being made that all those who expected to be chosen or spoken of as candidates should quit the apartment, all the members except three took the hint and went out. In their perplexing position the three modest gentlemen proved equal to the emergency by electing themselves."

So earnest were the inhabitants of Edinburgh that in about six months after the issue of the circular the regiment numbered sixteen companies, of one hundred men each on an average. Sedulously did they work at their drill:—

"It was no child's play. Six o'clock, seven o'clock in the morning, nine o'clock, ten o'clock at night, the sharp words of command could be heard ringing in the quadrangles, parks, and halls of the city. The volunteers had then to pay for their drill too, five shillings a month being about the usual figure."

On the 18th of February, 1860, the regiment assembled for its first inspection, and a most favourable report was made by Major Nelson, the inspecting officer. On the 7th of August in the same year, rather less than twelve months from its formation, the regiment marched past the Queen at Edinburgh at the great review. The regiment turned out in two battalions of ten companies each, with a total number of 1,369 of all ranks. The commander of the brigade to which the regiment belonged was Lieut.-Col. Davidson, then lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, who at the review at Edinburgh last month again commanded a brigade. On this occasion the City of Edinburgh Rifle Brigade turned out with even a stronger muster, and quite sustained its old reputation for steadiness and discipline. We must here bring our notice to a close; but the reader may be assured that there is much in the book which will interest greatly all who wish for information concerning the formation and progress of our volunteer army.

Narrative of the Portuguese Embassy to Abyssinia during the Years 1520-27. By Father Francisco Alvarez. Translated from the Portuguese by Lord Stanley of Alderley. (Hakluyt Society.)

THE little band of literary men in England who make a critical study of Portuguese classics—a band whose members may be counted on the fingers, and of whom Lord Stanley is a prominent figure—show signs of life and activity from time to time by their publications, of which several have been put forth lately. We have noticed in their places not one but several translations of the 'Lusiad,' Mr. Aubertin's and Capt. Burton's labours on Camoens, and Mr. de Gray Birch's translation of the 'Commentarios do Grande Afonso Dalboquerque'; now we have to bring before our readers Lord Stanley's translation of the Abyssinian travels of Alvarez. This work on Abyssinia is the earliest extant. Pedro de Covilham, who was sent to explore that country by the king Dom João in 1487, reached Abyssinia, it is true, thirty years before Alvarez, but he does not appear to have left any written record of his doings during a long residence in that country. This rare black-letter edition of Alvarez, printed in 1540 and probably at Coimbra, has been translated several times. There are Italian editions of 1550 and 1554; French of 1556 and 1558; Spanish of 1557, 1561, and 1588; German, 1576; 'The Voyage of Sir Francis Alvarez' in 'Purchas, His Pilgrims,' 1625; and to this must now be added Lord Stanley's work, which is probably the most perfect of all of them.

Of Alvarez little is known; he is described as a native of Coimbra, and after his return to Portugal he was sent on a mission to Rome, where he presented the letters of Prester John to the Pope. In character he appears to have been well suited for the arduous task which the expedition

to so unknown and unsettled a country as Abyssinia entailed. The usefulness of this Portuguese mission was somewhat marred by quarrels which arose between Dom Rodrigo de Lima, the ambassador, a selfish person, and Dom Jorge d'Abreu, secretary to the embassy, who appears to have been of very quarrelsome temper; this, as usual, caused dissension among the whole staff of the expedition. Father Alvarez, however, acted the part of peacemaker, and has even avoided saying on which side the blame lay. It is curious to observe that Dr. Johnson's "Happy Valley" was borrowed in idea from the description of Abyssinia in Purchas's work: this is shown by the fact that the Doctor's first literary work was a translation from the French edition of Lobo's 'Voyage to Abyssinia.' This was published in 1735 by Bettesworth & Hitch, at the "Red Lyon" in Paternoster Row, who remunerated the translator with the sum of five guineas!

Among many interesting points which are illustrated by Alvarez are the details of the Abyssinian ritual in comparison with that of the Roman Church. The minute description of the churches, elaborately cut out of the solid rock, is a part worthy the attention of the comparative architect, who may contrast them with the rock-hewn temples of Abu-Simbel and the sepulchral chambers of Beni Hassan. Alvarez evidently admired these structures with a critical eye. No modern traveller has described them, and unfortunately Mr. Clements Markham, although he was at one time within a short distance, was prevented from examining them. Perhaps M. Antoine d'Abbadie, whose long residence in Ethiopia has resulted in the publication of his copious astronomical observations and the preparation of a dictionary of the Ethiopic language, will some day put on record the result of his visit to these remarkable specimens of ecclesiastical art. The numerous examples illustrative of Abyssinian manners and customs, many of which are but little and imperfectly known, and some quaint and instructive, will delight the anthropologist. The account of the plague of locusts is graphically and pathetically told by Alvarez, who was an eyewitness of the incredible ravages of these creatures. The sun became yellow and the earth yellow the day before the insects themselves appeared—a phenomenon attributed to the shadow of the yellow wings of the locusts, which came down and spread over a width of eight leagues. Alvarez excommunicated a flight of these insects with remarkable results:—

"When we were returning to the town, because their road was to the sea from whence they came, there were so many coming after us, that it seemed as though they would break our ribs and heads, driving against us, such were the thumps inflicted on us.....Meanwhile a great storm arose from the sea which met them, confronting them with violent rain and hail which lasted quite three hours. The rivers and streams swelled very much, and when they had ended running off it was a wonderful thing that they measured two ells deep of their dead bodies, on the brink of the water of the great river, and likewise at the little brooks a great multitude dead on the edges. The next day in the morning there was not a single one alive in the whole country."

Miracle plays were apparently a novelty to the Abyssinian court, and on one occasion the Portuguese gave a representation before the Preste João of the 'Adoration of the Magi,' an Epiphany play. The text of this play is found in a thirteenth century service book from Strasbourg Cathedral, lately acquired by the British Museum.

All whose studies lead them to make original researches into Abyssinian history will be glad to peruse Lord Stanley's translation of Alvarez. There is, however, a far more important historical work upon the country which yet awaits a translator and editor. Almeida, a learned and intelligent member of the Company of Jesus, has left a manuscript volume of considerable dimensions, treating the history and manners and customs of Abyssinia in a very thorough and exhaustive manner. This is by far the most exact account of the region which it illustrates. The Hakluyt Society will confer a boon on literature if among its members any may be found with sufficient leisure and love of the subject to undertake the work which the translation of Almeida would involve. Such an undertaking successfully completed would raise the already high credit of the Society, whose labours indeed have already shown that the study of Portuguese literature is not so uncultivated among us as some would assert.

Commentary on the Books of Haggai, Zakharya, Malaki, Yona, Barûkh, Daniel. With Translation. By the late Dr. Heinrich von Ewald. Translated by J. Frederick Smith. (Williams & Norgate.)

The value of Ewald's work on the Old Testament prophets is too well known to require description. The professor had a large measure of the spirit that animated the old seers of Judah and Israel. With a poetic temperament, a fiery energy, an intense hatred of injustice, a passionate love of truth, a fortitude and courage which no danger could affright, he pursued his own course, solitary in his self-sufficiency, confident in his opinions, and intolerant of contradiction. Perhaps no other modern scholar has been so well fitted for the task of interpreting the weighty utterances of the inspired prophets from being in full sympathy with their patriotic effusions.

The present volume contains the three latest prophets, with the peculiar book of Jonah; the book of Baruch, consisting of two separate parts, besides the Greek epistle of Jeremiah often attached to Baruch; and the Maccabean production called Daniel. The portion which is occupied with Daniel, the most difficult of the whole, is specially important, and our lamented friend attached great weight to his elucidation of it, congratulating himself that he had succeeded at length in clearing up the oracle respecting the seventy weeks in the ninth chapter. But his solution is hazardous after all, and its correctness may well be doubted, because he resorts to conjecture, assuming that a few words or verses are wanting in the present text after the twenty-seventh verse.

The defects of Ewald's method consist in the undue splitting up of poems and prophecies, histories and legends. He discovered too many documents proceeding

from different authors. Pieces and fragments figure largely in his analyses. In like manner his strophes multiply. They too are traced where the original writers never thought of them. Thus he finds ten strophes in chapters x.—xii. of Daniel, three in x. 1—xi. 2a, and the remaining seven in xi. 2b—xii. Too much *spitzfindigkeit* appears in the dividings and strophes.

The volume before us is the fifth on the prophets, for the English extends to five volumes, the German being in three. The series forms an excellent commentary on the prophetic books, and no student of the Old Testament can dispense with it. With all its value, however, it does not supersede the commentaries of Hitzig or Gesenius's Isaiah. Probably scholars will meet with many interpretations which they cannot approve. The author sometimes differed from former expositors because he loved what was new. Not a few of his translations are susceptible of improvement. Thus in Daniel xii. 4, "But thou, Daniel! hide the words and seal the book till the time of the end, | that many may read the lines and the knowledge be increased!||," the latter part of the sentence is not very accurate. Better, "many shall search it through, and the knowledge be increased."

The translation is literal, bald, and awkward, so that it often reads like inverted English, stiff and rugged. Sometimes the long sentences are obscure and their grammar is difficult. But the style of the original is not good, and the work of making English out of the author's German is confessedly hard. The diction and sentences should be smoothed by paraphrase as far as that can be done with the preservation of the sense. But Mr. Smith has preferred to give a tolerably exact representation of the original in language and sentences far from agreeable. One is tempted to think that his translation needs to be retranslated, or turned at least into good English. Well acquainted as he is with the meaning of his author, he is not a model translator. Here are two sentences from Daniel, chapter ix.:—

"And after the sixty and two weeks will an anointed one be cut off and have no one, | and the city and the sanctuary the people of a high priest will destroy who cometh with his army in a flood: | —but until the end of the war is the decision concerning the horrible things. | And he will conclude a covenant with many for one week: | but for the half a week he will abolish the sacrifice and offering, and above will be the horrible wing of abominations: | —yet until the final punishment and decision will be poured out upon the horrible one.||"

Again, take this sentence from chapter xi.:

"And the king of the north will come and cast up a rampart and take a strongly fortified city, | and the arms of the south will not stand, his most chosen nations also—have no strength to withstand: || so he that cometh against him beareth sway after his pleasure in that no one withstandeth him, remaineth in the land of the Ornament, and it falleth wholly into his hand.||"

Whether such literal rendering be desirable admits of doubt, but there can be no question that the translator has understood the German original. The prophetic volumes, of which this is the last, will form an inestimable addition to the library of every theologian, bringing him into an intimate acquaintance with the best portion of the

Jewish Scriptures. As he uses them he will feel that he is in the hands of a master, whose command of the sacred materials inspires trust at once.

La Grande-Grèce, Paysages et Histoire. Par F. Lenormant. 2 vols. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

M. LENORMANT's fine book will more than fill a gap in our literature. We want a full and scientific guide to Greek Italy, and when his work is complete it will not merely give that, but a great deal besides. The present volumes only describe the coast from Taranto to Squillace—what he calls the Ionian Sea. The author does not promise any completion, perhaps because he could not command any definite time for a new tour in the country. But on the scale he has adopted he will require at least a volume for the Tyrrhenian shore and another for the Adriatic; for he is not satisfied with tracing each important town—Tarentum, Metapontum, Sybaris, Croton, &c.—from its foundation to modern times, he digresses into all manner of collateral subjects, in Herodotean fashion; so that his rambles and studies are perpetually crossing one another. Most of these resting points are very welcome. The introduction of the cat into Europe, chiefly through Tarentum, the psychological curiosities connected with the tarantula, the history of Pythagoreanism,—all these are fully, perhaps too fully, treated. The author's special pursuits in ancient mythology induce him to give certainly too large a space to speculations on ancient mysteries. He hopes that his book will become the accredited guide to Magna Grecia. How many travellers, it may be asked, will have the patience and the culture to bear with 900 pages on the country between Taranto and Squillace, filled out with all this learning? Moreover, the complicated and minute quarrels during the Middle Ages in Southern Italy, however interesting to those terrible historians who embrace all ages in their view, are dull to the ordinary scholar, who has mere classical training, and only wants a bridge to bring him to modern times.

All this is not dispraise, but the highest praise, of the book before us; for by the excellent index to each volume the reader can select what he will need, and so every one may suit himself. The descriptions of the country and its remains are delightful. All the general views of the religion, the commerce, and the life of ancient nations are deeply suggestive, and based on the author's well-known and exceptional breadth of study. His knowledge of coins has enabled him to throw new light on many points of ancient history in Magna Grecia, and this he justly claims as one of the original features of his book. It is very interesting to see the acute inferences he has drawn from this evidence. The second novelty is his theory that the Greek elements still surviving in some remote parts of the country do not date from the old Hellenic occupation, but from the re-Hellenization of the country by the Byzantine emperors from the ninth century to the eleventh. In a long and exhaustive inquiry (ii. 371–433) he shows the gradual extinction of Greek, its reintroduction, and the struggles for supremacy

between the Greek and the Latin rituals all through Calabria.

The most fascinating chapter in the present volumes is undoubtedly that on Catanzaro. It is clear that to the ordinary traveller the country north of Cotrone contains but little of interest. He should sail straight to Reggio, and travel by rail to Cotrone, making excursions from each station. So far the country is exceedingly beautiful, and from the forest heights of Mount Sila there are splendid views to both southern and western coasts. As to the antiquary, on the other hand, it is where the tourist stops that he should commence. From Cotrone to Taranto he passes the sites of the greatest settlements of the Greeks in Italy. Undoubtedly the foremost and the most interesting will one day be Sybaris. M. Lenormant justly points out that here we have a site where a great city was suddenly destroyed before 500 B.C., and its ground not only cursed, but rendered additionally uninhabitable by turning the course of the river Crathis over it. Thus all its remains are now covered with the deep deposit of the river. If Dr. Schliemann turns his energy hither, he will probably find a wealth of archaic remains which might eclipse anything yet discovered. The excavations would be very expensive. Steam pumps should be used to dispose of the water, or else the river should again be diverted to its old bed—perhaps both—and then we may discover what was the nature of the extraordinary wealth and the luxury which have made the name proverbial to the present day. Our author is justly sceptical of the accounts left us by the enemies of Sybaris. He brands with just reprobation the barbarous and impolitic destruction of this great Hellenic bulwark against barbarism by the stupid enthusiasm of the Pythagorean brotherhood which directed Croton. He also points out, perhaps for the first time, the real secret of Sybaris' success. It was the command of a short and easy pass across the Calabrian Alps to the Tyrrhenian Sea, so that the cities settled at the Straits of Messina lost their monopoly of trade with the northern and western coasts. A glance at the map will show the sudden narrowing of the peninsula at this point. By holding the port of Laos on the Tyrrhenian Sea, and joining it by a good road with Sybaris, these people completely turned the position of the settlers at Rhegium and Messina.

Passing from antiquities to questions of modern and practical interest, there is a very interesting passage (i. 172-85) on the land question in Southern Italy, especially in the country about the Siris. The description of the miseries of the farm labourer, who is the veritable successor of the Roman slave on the *latifundia*, and of his social condition is very curious. There are no small estates or tenant proprietors.

"To this is added the widespread absenteeism of the territorial aristocracy, who live in the great towns which were once capitals, or in the rich villas which surround them, and, instead of caring for their landed estates, avoid visiting them, and leave them in charge of their agents. Thus the only care of the great proprietor is to draw a fixed revenue from his land, without otherwise concerning himself about it, nay, often in seeking to anticipate his rents, in order to meet his extravagant outlay. Above all, he will not hear of any expensive advances for the

improvement of property in which he takes no personal interest. Hence the predominance of pasturage over agriculture, as it diminishes the outlay, though on the other hand it depopulates the country and prevents any real progress."

What would the Irish Land League say to the great Italian landlords, "to whom the inhabitants of his property are tenants at will, without any guarantee whatever, whom the mere pleasure of the landlord or of his agent can expel from their house any day, and cast them out without home or hearth, without work, and without resource"?

The whole passage is curious, and not the least that which treats of the emigration of these poor people to South America. There are the agrarian murders, too, and the conspiracy of silence among the oppressed.

But every page of these volumes gives scope for comment. We hope the author will promptly complete his work, which a slight economizing of his boundless materials might not only expedite, but even render more practical and useful.

My Garden Wild, and What I grew There.

By Francis George Heath. (Chatto & Windus.)

MR. HEATH is certainly an enthusiast, and more especially an enthusiast in ferns. He has already given us 'The Fern World,' and 'The Fern Paradise,' and 'Trees and Ferns,' and here in this new volume we have at least fifty pages more of "What Ferns I Grew." The admiring students of Mr. Heath's books have, however, no right to complain. They probably will not weary of this repetition of lessons which they learned elsewhere, and there is much in 'My Garden Wild' which will be quite new to them. It appears that on some occasion or other Mr. Heath went to see the garden of a friend. It was rather a remarkable garden. It was surrounded by four walls, it had a fountain and artificial birds, and the bedding out was in the most approved fashion and on a considerable scale. Besides the ordinary geraniums and calceolarias, there was a bed of nemophila (probably rather past its best), and, curiously enough, another of white candytuft. But there were still more uncommon beds than these: there were balsams "of varying hues," and a bed of cinerarias! Mr. Heath's friend was evidently a bold man, and we should be anxious to know whether his bedded-out cinerarias were successful. We do not remember ever having heard of such a bed in an English garden. Is it possible that Mr. Heath has confused cinerarias and asters?

However this may be, Mr. Heath grew tired of the blaze of colour, and retiring into a "pagoda," which was shaded by an aspen, fell asleep and had a dream. He dreamed, he tells us, that the garden before him was changed into a wild dell, that a stream ran through it, and that all kinds of wild flowers, of every season and of every variety of soil and climate, combined to make it beautiful. Mr. Heath then awoke, and determined on realizing the scene which his fortunate dream suggested. It should be the gate of horn through which this beatific vision passed. Of course all these things may be an allegory, but in any case 'My Garden Wild' was now begun. We will not stop to ask why Mr. Heath does not speak, as

everybody else would, of "my wild garden"; the garden itself is the important matter. But we find it very hard to picture this garden. We have no idea of its size or aspect; and Mr. Heath, who is very minute in some points, leaves these essential ones to our own imagination. He only tells us, "My house, like many others, lay midway between two gardens, one in front of it and the other behind," and "the garden wild" was to be in the back premises. This piece of ground was surrounded by walls, there were lime trees along the sides, and then a gravelled enclosure with central turf and a few shrubs. But now piled-up "rocks" were "to destroy the dead uniformity" of the walls, and plants and ferns were taken possession of in country rambles to adorn the garden. A great piece of good fortune followed:—

"I had noticed, shortly after occupying my new garden, that a little stream, skirting for a short distance the roadway near my house, suddenly disappeared under an archway of rounded tiles, and reappeared, as it seemed, some little distance away in another part of the district."

Mr. Heath concluded that this "stream" ran under his garden. He uncovered "the tile duct," and there it was. The stream is now made to wind "between open banks," and every sort of flower manages to grow there. As we read on we get more and more bewildered, and have to stretch our idea of the garden's extent at each new chapter. There are "my garden stream, my central pool, and the little marshy tract"; there are the rocks that hide the outside walls; there is a garden "glade," or "dell," with "flowery grass banks"; there is a "garden green lane," with "the imitation of a pass between rocks"; there are "hedge-banks" by the side of the green lane, and there are "clumps" of shrubs on grassy spaces. In short, Mr. Heath must either have had a very large garden—much larger than the original description prepared us for—or, like the owner of another famous garden, he has "the honour of having a little taste of everything at Tusculum," and we must not confound variety with size.

As regards the plants that are grown in "my garden wild," everything would seem to thrive there. There are water plants, and moorland plants, and bog plants, and woodland plants, and the plants of the field and of the lane. They seem occasionally to have been quite indifferent to the conditions under which they are commonly found. The wild thyme was made to grow in abundance "in a half-shady and very moist position," and the best cowslip in this "garden wild" appears to have been planted as a rock plant on a rockery. There were three kinds of heath and four varieties of wild violet, and we are twice informed (at pp. 155 and 172) how we may know the sweet violet from "its very similar congener" the dog violet.

The strange thing about this book is that Mr. Heath, with all his knowledge and sentimental love of his subject—and there is evidence of both—should be so singularly unattractive in style, and so entirely wanting in imagination. He describes plant after plant with the dry precision of a mere botanist, and hardly ever interests us in it by reminding us of its history or recalling

its associations. It is instructive, for instance, to be told that the speedwell's "purplish-blue flowers grow, as they mostly do in all the species, in racemes upon long stems which spring from the axils of the leaves," and a great deal besides which we can get more handily from a botanical text-book. But throughout the whole book there is scarcely a felicitous epithet or a graphic bit of writing. We must make one exception, however. Mr. Heath is describing the well-known *Arum maculatum*, known to all children as "lords and ladies," and he tells us how he was fascinated when a boy by

"the singular green hood or *spatha* which, opening on one side, discloses the curious, purple, club-like arrangement within—the *spadic* so wonderfully resembling a *poker rising up like a spectre* (!) from the unseen depths of the *spatha*."

But if Mr. Heath is generally a little prosaic, he has plenty of what he fears a "censorious reader" will term his "sentiment." We will call it by any name Mr. Heath prefers. This is the sort of thing. He is speaking of the wood anemone:—

"I hesitate to say that I had an especial fondness for this charming plant, because my likings for plants are somewhat too universal. There is no wild plant I do not like very much. I confess—and I should not obtrude such a confession upon my readers did I not feel that I am speaking the thoughts of very many of them—that I never tire of looking at wild plants. The contemplation of them, if they are really wild, and not the forced hybrids or monstrosities of a garden or a greenhouse, gives me an indefinable sense of pleasure."

This sort of "sentiment"—a really "censorious reader" might possibly be inclined to call it by a different name—finds its last expression here in a wonderful chapter on "Weeds." We think Dr. Johnson defined weeds as "herbs noxious or useless," and some one else has said that they are plants out of their proper place. Certainly most owners of gardens—with the single exception of Mr. Heath, we might say all owners of gardens—find weeds an unmitigated nuisance. They rob the soil, they smother the delicate plants, they seed all over the place. They have but little beauty of their own, and they destroy the beauty of all others. From Solomon's "field of the slothful," with its thorns and nettles, to Shelley's forsaken garden of 'The Sensitive Plant,' with its thistles and darnels and hemlocks, weeds have always been recognized as the natural foes of order and of comeliness. But Mr. Heath knows better. He has "always been a lover of what are contemptuously called 'weeds.'" He is indignant that people should "ruthlessly pluck up and fling ignominiously away these humble plants," and should choose rather to "see bare spaces of black earth round every garden flower than the spaces occupied by 'weeds.'" He then observes:—

"'Weeds' give most offence, in the eyes of their detractors, by their habit of coming uninvited into gardens. Such conduct is, doubtless, irritating to the horticultural mind, but I confess that for me it has an attraction. I regard the visits of these wildlings, when they are so good as to come into my grounds, as a direct compliment. How have I, for instance, deserved so much consideration? What good have I ever done, or what good am I ever likely to do, to the vegetable world to entitle me to such a favour?"

He then goes on to speak in special terms of admiration of thistles, chickweed, dandelions, and groundsel, and adds: "I have named the most prominent and conspicuous, the boldest and most persistent, and—let me frankly confess my predilection—the most welcome of them all." We can only hope that Mr. Heath's wild garden may have as many of these welcome guests as he can possibly desire; but how far his primroses and gentians and orchises will approve of it is quite another matter. He must settle it with them, and we should hardly be surprised if his actual practice did not exactly bear out the magnificence of his language.

Like several others of Mr. Heath's works, this book will, no doubt, command a *succès d'estime*, especially with those who do not read it carefully. But it is not a literary success, and it does not leave behind it an impression as of perfect sincerity and accuracy of thought. One page of Mary Russell Mitford is worth the whole of it.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

A Man of the Day. By the Authors of 'David Armstrong.' 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

A Boycotted Household. By Letitia McClintock. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

In Spite of Fate. By Katherine Clive. 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

'A MAN OF THE DAY' is a book which may prove satisfactory to some readers. The story is written with a view to combat the "innovations of the day." As for the work itself, there is not much innovation in it. The plot shows no originality, and the man of the day is a person who has been seen many times before. The mental development of the hero, his struggles, and the conflict between revealed religion and atheism, class interests and socialism, form the main structure of the story. The minor characters are nearly equally divided as representatives of good and evil. There are two fathers, both proud, vain, cold, hard, and selfish. One has a wife who has abandoned him; the other had a wife who abandoned the world and died. One father has a daughter who is virtuous and pretty, and is never exposed to any great temptation. She remains virtuous and pretty to the end of the tale. The other father has also a daughter who is virtuous and pretty, but she is exposed to a great temptation and does not remain virtuous. Then there are varieties of schoolmasters who succeed each other in the northern village where the principal events of the story occur. One of them helped to build up the edifice of the hero's education, but could not solve the problems which are the outcome of his training. Of the other characters one at least might have been left out. The mother who abandons husband and children, falls lower and lower, and dies in a workhouse, is altogether a repulsive woman. Such a death-bed scene has often been described before, and it is not given in such a manner as to warrant its repetition. The writers do not appear to have a very extensive vocabulary to aid them in describing scenery, as the same phrases constantly recur. The authors are evidently well intentioned, but atheism and socialism are dangerous topics in any but a master's hand.

There is perhaps a little too much love-

making in 'A Boycotted Household.' The author appears to have set herself not so much to describe the process of "boycotting" as to prove that under any circumstances the tender passion is all powerful, and that the lover will not hesitate to woo, nor the lady to let herself be won, even when the accompaniment to their proceedings is one of blazing ricks and banging blunderbusses and the other graces of practical Irish oratory. Certain it is that, while dealing liberally in siege and arson and murder, Mrs. McClintock has not refrained from mere flirtation, and that two of her girls are mated and married ere the Land Bill passes and the curtain falls. All this notwithstanding, her story is not one of the sexes pure and simple, but—as it purports to be—one of war between landlords and tenants, and withal a lively and speaking study of character and manners. She knows her subject thoroughly and is well able to communicate her knowledge. She is clever at narrative and at description. Her personages are many; but all, whether principal or subordinate, are well drawn and clearly differentiated. Her incidents are almost as striking and appropriate as her personages. In brief, her book—which, be it said in passing, is written in the landowning interest—is one of more than common merits. It is spirited, vigorous, and able from beginning to end, and should find many readers.

'In Spite of Fate' reads like a reprint from some "penny dreadful." There is a good deal of reference to "aristocrats" and "plebeians," though the titles and the manners of the former are equally strange. There are two heroines: one who devotes her life to curing her father, an aged admiral, of his inordinate addiction to grog, and who is in other respects a very estimable person; another whose reputation is unjustly suspected, and whom the reader learns to loathe, not for her wickedness, but her vulgarity. It is, however, hard upon her that her too impetuous pursuit of Lord Wilton, or Lord Arthur, as he is indifferently called, should lead her into the clutches of a villain like Jucocoe, who beats her cruelly. Milder castigation inflicted in early youth might have saved poor Cordelia from growing up a hopeless "minx," but an adult heroine should not be so treated. It is impossible to give any idea of the story, which is as wildly unnatural as the style is laboured. Some verses by Lord Arthur, which are justly characterized by Cordelia as "bosh," are perhaps a shade better than the prose of this odd narrative.

PHILOLOGICAL BOOKS.

Records of the Past. Vol. XII. (Bagster & Son.)—The publication known as 'Records of the Past,' commenced in 1873 to give popular translations of the principal Assyrian and Egyptian texts, is at last complete, and has carried out to a certain extent the object of its issue—the translation of the principal Egyptian and Assyrian inscriptions bearing on the mythology and history of these two Oriental countries. As the translations were all voluntary, and the whole not arranged upon any definite plan beyond that of volumes being alternately Assyrian and Egyptian, their contents are promiscuous, and they offer at least the charm of variety. Their interest chiefly consists in their novel character in treating the two new subjects of ancient philology. The texts from which

they are taken have, at all events, the merit of being contemporaneous with the events they narrate, and some are as old as transcendental chronology could desire. Executed by different authors, they exhibit various degrees of merit, from the feeble essays of beginners to the higher flights of veteran philologists. The idea of the work was the keynote to other publications, and the extensive introduction of translations into the 'Assyrian Discoveries,' 'Chaldean Account of Genesis,' and other works of the late George Smith, as well as into the Egyptian history of Brugsch Pacha, may be considered due to the favour with which the translations were received; while the idea of publishing translations of the sacred books of the world no doubt owes its revival to the favourable reception of translations of ancient texts and the increasing desire for a more intimate acquaintance with the East. One of the great difficulties of the various texts is the want of a uniform system of transliteration, each author having adopted his own, and consequently there is a want of uniformity which might have been prevented by the adoption of one system of transliteration, as has been done to some extent with the Arabic. The twelfth volume consists of Egyptian texts, some of which are of greater interest than others. Amongst the newer ones may be cited the scarabæi of Amenophis III., the book of Hades, from the text of the coffin of Seti I. in the Soane Museum, the great tablet of Rameses II. at Abu-Simbel, and the libation vase of Osorur. The other inscriptions are of important texts which have been already translated, and are fairly useful to the student as they are interesting to the general reader. The Egyptian portions have had a more favourable reception from scholars than the Assyrian, some of the translations of the cuneiform not having elicited unequivocal commendation.

Thukydideische Forschungen. Von Hermann Müller-Strübing. (Trübner & Co.)—The author of this volume is a most indefatigable controversialist and a keen student. His criticisms (on about sixty passages) should certainly be taken into consideration by those who make Thucydides a speciality, but he is too prolix and too much of a *cumini sector* for ordinary scholars, his tone seeming to English ears quite old-fashioned in its bitterness. Hard knocks are dealt out to Classen and Cobet, who can defend themselves. Life is short, and if the alternative lies between believing that the Athenians massacred a thousand Mitylenian aristocrats in cold blood and discussing nigh upon a hundred pages octavo, we advise the former. We have studied Herr Müller-Strübing's brief for the Athenians without feeling constrained to return a verdict of "Not guilty." On a curious use of a participle, tense, or mood we would of course gladly spend the best part of a lifetime, but we do not care to dwell long on the question, already ventilated in our author's 'Aristophanes und die Historische Kritik,' whether the menial women left in Platea during the siege were free-women or slaves. On p. 87 it is proposed, without sufficient warrant, to alter II. 29, § 5. Passing over *ἐντελέειν*, we may observe that, as Aristophanes uses the middle of *ποιέω* with reference to Sadoeus being made an Athenian when the Athenians are the subject, we need not stick at the active with their *prozenos* for subject. Whether our author's proposals, which here deal chiefly with Bks. III. and V., be accepted or not, his publications are useful at least as exercises in independent research in the comparatively fallow field of historical criticism.

Le Panthéon Égyptien. Par Paul Pierret. (Paris, Leroux.)—The present work by M. Pierret is intended as a manual of Egyptian mythology, of which in a previous work he had given a sketch. As to the philosophical treatment of the subject, M. Pierret reiterates his former opinion that the numerous types of Egyptian polytheism represent in reality only different phases of the one god or deity, and in

this respect agrees with the views of the mythology entertained by De Rouge and Mr. Le Page Renouf. M. Pierret has classified to some extent the deities according to their functions, but there is in Egyptian mythology an absence of successive development and, above all, of legends, which invest other mythologies with superior charms. The principal legend is the sun myth, which alone offers a connected thread of events, relating to the passage of the sun through the hours of the night and day. Isolated facts and adventures may be gathered from monumental and other hieroglyphic texts, but the subjective and, above all, the esoteric explanations of the different types are scant. M. Pierret has, however, contrived to make a very good manual for the use of students and in museums, and, as his work is accompanied by good woodcuts, has enabled the uninitiated to recognize at a glance all the leading types of the pantheon. There are some difficulties about one or two of the cuts; that of Anhour or Onouris may be the figure of an Ethiopian monarch rather than the god himself, the deity being particularly honoured by Tirhakah. M. Pierret identifies Bes with Typhon, but it is doubtful, and, from his appearance on coins with Phœnician legends, Bes may be a form of Baal. He is also apparently not aware that the name Tanen or Tann, the Tatanen epithet of Phtha, has been found in a Greek inscription; he also does not critically distinguish the cat-headed Bast or Bubastis, a later form of the goddess, from the earlier lion-headed type. He still retains the name of Khem for the peculiar type of Amen Ra, although it is very doubtful if it is the right name, and persists throughout the work in calling Phile "Philoce" and uræus "uroceus." At the end he gives a very useful glossary of the names of the deities, and, as his work is throughout accompanied by references justifying his principal assertions, it is a very useful contribution as a work of reference for Egyptologists and a good guide to the subject of the pantheon. Much practical use may be made of the work, which obviates the trouble of searching through works of great magnitude and numerous inscriptions or other compilations.

Koptische Grammatik. Von Ludwig Stern. (Leipzig, Weigel.)—The neglect into which the study of the Coptic language had fallen notwithstanding the labours of several students in Europe seems likely to pass away. Unlike the Greek language, which is still spoken, the Coptic, or language of Egypt before its subjugation, was obliterated by the Mohammedan conquest. In the sixth century B.C. the old language of Egypt had become dead or obsolete, and was replaced by the younger form written in the so-called demotic character, a modification of the hieratic or older cursive character. The rise of the Ptolemies in the fourth century B.C., after the fall of Egypt to Alexander, introduced Greek as the official language; and Greek and Coptic written in the demotic character prevailed side by side till the introduction of Christianity substituted an enlarged Greek alphabet, and the Coptic was written in the form under which it is now known. The descendant of the old Egyptian and retaining most of its grammatical forms, it has suffered much by the influx of Greek words and something by its contact with Arabic. Unfortunately, after the triumph of Christianity a narrow theology limited its literature to Biblical translation, lives of saints, and very dull sermons, so that its plain features possess no attractions for the general inquirer. It is, however, of the highest value for translating the hieroglyphic and demotic literatures, which belong to ages more remote and contain subjects more extensive. To the pure philologist the variations of three dialects—the Sahidic, or that of Upper Egypt; the Memphitic or Boheirish, that of Middle Egypt; and the Bashmuric, or tongue of Lake Menzaleh—offer peculiarities of construction on which the student may ring the changes of structure and

vocabulary. The Coptic literature flourished from the second century to the seventh, but it does not appear in its Hellenized form till the fourth or fifth century A.D. It has long ceased to be spoken by the Copts, although read in the services of the church and rendered intelligible to the priests and congregations by Arabic translations. The method and order of the modern study of languages were as unknown to the Copts as to their contemporaries, and the dictionaries, or rather vocabularies, exhibit all the infirmities of learning a language by oral haphazard rather than cautious studies, and the labours of Abba Johannes Sammanudi, Ibn Dahiri, and Bishop Athanasius must pass for empirical. In Europe the Jesuit Kircher revived or created the study of Coptic by translating Sammanudi in 1644. The works of a pleiad of scholars in the last century, comprising the Copt Tuki, and rather more in this century, have kept up the knowledge of the language; and several grammars have been published besides critical grammatical observations distributed through the writings of Quatremère, Peyron, Goodwin, and Revillout. Several texts have also appeared, especially Biblical versions, and the learned work of Zoega is in itself a chrestomathy of the utmost value for the student. Amongst the dictionaries that have appeared that of Peyron holds the first rank for its critical accuracy, while Tattam's is the most copious—loaded, however, with words which have glided into the Coptic at the successive stages of its adulteration—and the vocabulary of Parthey is the most ready reference for the student. The grammar of Tattam is too complex and confused for the beginner; indeed, the confusion of two or three dialects, requiring the student to learn them all at once, is uncritical, and the proper line would be to give an accurate and critical grammar of each dialect separately, as Doric, Ionic, and Æolic forms are taught in Greek, postponed till the standard form of the language has been acquired. So also with the original or hieroglyphical form of the language, comparisons of which with the more recent forms are useful, if not essential to understanding the history of the construction and its change. In this country, notwithstanding its religious attractions, the study of Coptic has incurred the official contempt so freely lavished on all studies except Hellenic, the only languages worth acquiring being considered to be those of Greece and Rome. The grammar of M. Stern is good and elaborate, and well adapted for an advanced student, but too complex for a simple introduction to the study, which after all is that of a very difficult language. It doubtless contains all the results of recent research, and is invaluable for consultation in difficult cases, and as such it may be recommended. It contains a few specimens of Memphitic and Sahidic texts, and a list of works published in Coptic, which are useful as pointing out the differences between the Memphitic and Sahidic dialects. They follow, indeed, the usual transcription; and this is one of the difficulties of the Coptic, that the verbal root is enveloped in affixes and prefixes, from which agglutinations the mind has to eliminate it. Some attempt, indeed, was made by Schwartz to simplify the transcription, but it has not been received with favour. The future study of Coptic should be connected with Egyptology, and if a chair of this branch of philology be erected, it should be provided with a footstool of Coptic.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MESSRS. LONGMANS & Co. have sent us their new popular edition of Lady Brassey's *Voyage in the Sunbeam*. It is brought out at the marvellously low price of sixpence, and is probably one of the cheapest books ever issued. It is unabridged, and has even the illustrations. The type is clear and not too small, and the

paper good enough to make reading possible without discomfort. The large size of the page is the only inconvenience. It is to be hoped that the publishers will be successful in this novel undertaking.

Standard Etymological Dictionary of the English Language. (Ward, Lock & Co.)—We have here, in a compact and neatly got-up volume of some 530 pages, a very full and comprehensive vocabulary of the English language. The work is brought well up to date, and we have noticed but few omissions and still fewer errors. Curiously enough, although cricket is our great national game, the present volume, like all its predecessors, fails to enter a large number of terms connected with it; though, at the same time, in those which are given, it does not fall into the same ludicrous errors as Webster, who defines wicket-keeper, for instance, as the player in cricket who stands with a bat to protect the wicket from the ball! The definitions are necessarily concise, and the etymologies still more so; but the former are always sufficiently full to avoid ambiguity or indefiniteness. Scientific and technical terms are freely introduced. Some space might have been saved by the omission of many of the so-called "compounds." It is, of course, most difficult, if not impossible, to draw a hard-and-fast line as to what is and what is not a compound; but the simplest and most satisfactory rule would seem to be to admit only those words as compounds in which the resulting combination conveys a different idea from that expressed by the component words individually. Thus "ship's-husband" is a legitimate compound, but not "ship's-carpenter." Most people, however, will be inclined to regard the presence of so many "compounds" as a fault on the right side. The volume also includes a list of abbreviations used in writing and printing, a brief classical dictionary, and words, phrases, and proverbs from Latin, French, and other languages. Altogether for its size it will be found the most complete popular dictionary of our language yet published.

A THIRD stereotyped edition of M. Tourguénief's *Notes of a Sportsman* has just been published in St. Petersburg, chiefly with the view of placing this now classical work within the reach of schools, where funds may be insufficient for the purchase of the complete set of the author's tales and sketches. The 'Notes of a Sportsman,' the earliest instalment of which originally appeared in the *Sovremennik* in 1847, first fully established M. Tourguénief's reputation. They contain, indeed, some rare bits of *genre*, characteristic description, and local colouring.

We have received the second and third parts of Dr. Berthold Benecke's *Fische, Fischerei, und Fischzucht in Ost- und West-Preussen* (Königsberg, Hartung). The work is now completed. In the second part Book I., treating of the seventy-three various kinds of fishes, is concluded, and a description is added of their enemies. Book II. deals with the Prussian fisheries, an account of the seas, rivers, and lakes being followed first by a history of the fishery and afterwards by a very elaborate explanation of the various engines and lures employed. The economical aspect of the matter is then considered. Book III. deals with fish culture, and brings this very elaborate work to an end.

We have on our table *Foreign Journals: The Effect of an English Judgment Abroad*, Part II., by F. T. Piggott (Stevens).—*Handbook for Coroners*, by J. G. Lee (Philadelphia, Brotherhead).—*Employers and Employed*, by G. R. Innes (Wilson).—*Latter-Day Teachers*, by R. A. Armstrong (Kegan Paul).—*Life and Writings of Thomas Carlyle*, 2 vols., edited by R. H. Shepherd (Allen & Co.).—*Industrial Geography of the United States*, by G. P. Bevan (Sonnenstein & Allen).—*Tide-Tables for the Indian Ports*, 1881, by Capt. A. W. Baird and E. Roberts (Taylor & Francis).—*Exercises in Analytical Geometry*, by J. M. Dyer (Macmillan).—

Elements of Geometry, by A. C. Clairaut (Kegan Paul).—*Natural Philosophy*, by E. B. Aveling (Stewart).—*Hindu Philosophy*, by J. Davies (Trübner).—*Sociology based upon Ethnography*, by Dr. C. Letourneau (Chapman & Hall).—*Education Scientific and Technical*, by R. Galloway (Trübner).—*The Intellectual Development of the Canadian People*, by J. G. Bourinot (Toronto, Hunter, Rose & Co.).—*An Abridgement of Adam Smith's Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, by W. P. Emerton (Oxford, Thornton).—*The Purchase of Gas and Water Works*, by A. Silverthorne (Lockwood).—*Report of the Railways and Tramways of New South Wales, 1879* (Sydney, Richards).—*Household Words*, Part IV., edited by C. Dickens (Dickens & Evans).—*Milton's Paradise Lost*, Part I., illustrated by G. Doré (Cassell).—*The Old Inns and Taverns of Exeter*, by R. Dymond (reprinted from the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association*).—*Milton's Lycidas*, Gray's *Elegy*, &c., translated into Latin verse by J. Bulmer (Cambridge, Jones).—*The Emerson Birthday Book* (Trübner).—*The Spectral Rock*, by W. J. Spratly (Simpkin).—*Legends of the Leading Cases*, by Touchstone (Reeves & Turner).—*Napoleon III. and the Commune of Paris*, a Drama, by Dr. E. Loewenthal (Chicago, Occident Printing Office).—*Light Refreshments of Different Sorts*, by T. B. Heathorn (Remington).—*Celestia*, by J. Skinner (Kegan Paul).—*The Counting and the Interpretation of the Apocalyptic "Number of the Beast"*, by the Rev. J. Challis (Rivingtons).—*Jewish Life in the East*, by S. M. Samuel (Kegan Paul).—*Was Abraham a Christian?* by M. E. Chudleigh (Rivingtons).—*Sermons*, by J. R. Illingworth (Macmillan).—*The Resurrection of our Lord*, by W. Milligan (Macmillan).—*Aus Sturm und Noth* (Berlin, Schorer).—*Religions et Institutions Comparées, Les Origines*, Part I., by A. Gilliot (Nancy, Collin).—*La Poésie Arabe anté-Islamique*, by R. Basset (Paris, Leroux).—*Phosphorus Hollunder: Zu Füssen des Monarchen*, by L. François (Stuttgart, Spemann).—*Das Goldland Ofir*, by Dr. A. Soetbeer (Berlin, Herbig).—*Die Sonntage der Baronin*, by F. Mauthner (Zürich, Schmidt).—*Der Geist der Königin Katharine*, by R. Rolandin (Siegle). Among New Editions we have *Christian Schools and Scholars*, by A. T. Drane (Burns & Oates).—*History of the Zulu War and its Origin*, by Frances E. Colenso and Lieut.-Col. E. Durnford (Chapman & Hall).—*Old Faiths in New Light*, by N. Smyth (New York, Scribner & Son).—*The Artistic Clerk's Handbook*, by R. Halliday (Cox).—*The Check Journal*, by G. Jackson (Wilson).—*Catechism on the Rudiments of Music*, by E. E. Jewell (Cock).—and *Ad Regiam*, by G. E. Lancaster (Bogue). Also the following Pamphlets: *The Liberian Republic as It Is*, by G. R. Stetson (Boston, U.S., Williams).—*What is Science saying about Ireland?* (Kingston-upon-Hull, Leng & Co.).—*Monaco, and its Gaming Tables*, by J. Polson (Stock).—*Crotchets and Quaverings*, No. I., by an English Musician (Stanley Lucas & Co.).—*A Practical Scheme of Fair Representation*, by A. Frisby (Author).—and *Subjects for Master's Degree in Harvard College, 1655-1791*, by E. J. Young (Cambridge, U.S., Wilson & Son).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Poetry.

Kossovo: Serbian National Songs about the Battle of Kossovo, trans. by Madame Elodie Lawton Migatovich, 3/6

History and Biography.

Browne (Gen. C. A.), A Brief Sketch of the Life of, by a General Officer, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Hewetson (Robert), Life and Works of, Boy Painter and Poet, by H. B. Hewetson, 4to. 42/6 bds.

Philology.

Enchiridion of Epictetus and the Golden Verses of Pythagoras, translated into English Prose and Verse, with Notes, &c., by the Hon. Thos. Talbot, 12mo. 7/6 cl.
Lange's (Franz K. W.) German Prose Writing, Part I., English Passages for Translation into German, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.
Paley's (F. A.) Short Treatise on the Greek Particles, 2/6 cl.

Science.

Strecker's (A.) Short Text-Book of Organic Chemistry, by Dr. Johannes Wislicenus, translated and edited by W. R. Hodgkinson and A. J. Greenaway, 8vo. 21/ cl.
Wyllie's (C.) Treatise on Iron-founding, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

General Literature.

Adams's (Rev. H. C.) Who Did It? or Holmwood Priory, 5/ cl.
Beale's (A.) Gladys the Reaper, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Bergen's (W. C.) Guide-Book to Local Marine Board Examinations, 8vo. 4/ cl.
Besant (W.) and Rice's (J.) The Ten Years' Tenant, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Black's (W.) Sunrise, a Story of these Times, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Church's (Mrs. A. B.) Cecily's Debt, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
D'Israeli (I.), Works of, new edition, edited, with Memoirs and Notes, by the Rt. Hon. B. Disraeli, 6 vols. 30/ cl.
Gibbon's (C.) The Braes of Yarrow, a Romance, 3 vols. 31/6 cl.
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FOREIGN.

Theology.

Bach (J.): D. Albertus Magnus Verhältnis zu der Erkenntnislehre der Griechen, Lateiner, Araber u. Juden, 5m.
Rosin (D.): Der Pentateuch-Commentar d. R. Samuel ben Meir, 4m.

History and Biography.

Briefe der Kaiserin Maria Theresia an ihre Kinde u. Freunde, ed. A. v. Arneth, 18m.

Geography and Travel.

Curtius (E.) u. Kaupert (J. A.): Wandplan v. Alt-Athen, 8m.

Philology.

Barbour's Legendarium, ed. C. Horstmann, 8m.
Elis Saga ok Rosamundu, ed. E. Kölling, 8m. 50.
Jarník (J. U.): Zur Albanischen Sprachkunde, 2m.
Speculum Regale, ed. O. Brenner, 5m.

General Literature.

Chollet (É.): Remarques Singulières de Paris, 8fr. (Collection des Anciennes Descriptions de Paris.)

THE SONNET'S VOICE.

(A METRICAL LESSON BY THE SEA-SHORE.)

Yox silvery billows breaking on the beach
Fall back in foam beneath the starshine clear,
The while my rhymes are murmuring in your ear
A restless lore like that the billows teach;
For on these sonnet-waves my soul would reach
From its own depths and rest within you, dear,
As through the billowy voices yearning here
Great Nature strives to find a human speech.
A sonnet is a wave of melody:
From soundless gulfs of the impassioned soul
A billow of heart-music one and whole
Flows in the "octave"; then, returning free,
Its ebbing surges in the "sestet" roll
Back to the depths of Life's tumultuous sea.

THEODORE WATTS.

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the librarians, held in the Hall of Gray's Inn, was very fairly attended by London and provincial members of the Association, and Mr. J. A. Russell, Q.C., the president for the time being, gave them an address that was heartily applauded, especially in the passage in which he linked the ancient society in whose name he welcomed his hearers to that venerable hall with the young society there holding only its fourth annual meeting.

An expression of regret at the death of Mr. Winter Jones, the first president of the Association, having been passed, the report and the treasurer's account, after some discussion, were adopted. The report mentions the death of the Rev. H. O. Cox, Sir Redmond Barry, Mr. Solomon Hart, and Mr. T. Watson, members of the Association, and that of Prof. Rolleston, who had taken a prominent part in the meeting of the librarians at Oxford. The discussion turned chiefly on the action of the Council in connexion with the Free Library Bill, introduced by Sir John Lubbock into the House of Commons. The first paper read was one by the Rev. W. D. Macray, giving a succinct account of Mr. Cox's labours in the Bodleian during a period of more than forty years. Mr. Henry Stevens, in his paper entitled 'English Bibliography before 1640,' complained of the backwardness of the science in this country as com-

pared with its development in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and America, while in wealth of bibliographical materials it surpassed them all, and made England the envy of the world. These vouchers of English thought and invention, though well preserved, are scattered throughout the land, he said, inadequately calendared, and consequently unproductive. He called upon the Government to take the matter in hand, and hoped that nothing would occur to defer the promised catalogue of English books from the earliest time to 1640 now in the British Museum. A paper by Mr. E. C. Thomas 'On Legal Bibliography' contained a useful suggestion for making a complete list in one alphabet of the law books in all the libraries of the inns of court, distinguishing the books in each library, so that any law student failing to find the work he needs in one collection might find it in another. A paper by Mr. Douthwaite 'On the Libraries of the Inns of Court' followed, at the conclusion of which the same gentleman conducted his fellow librarians to the various libraries he had described, as well as to that of the Incorporated Law Society, where the party was received by Mr. Boase, the librarian, who gave an account of the collection there. On Tuesday evening the country members were entertained by the London members at dinner, Mr. Garnett, of the British Museum, being in the chair.

AMBROSE GWINETT.

Sheffield, September 12, 1881.

CAN any reader of the *Athenæum* throw light on the authorship of the pamphlet relating the strange adventures of Ambrose Gwinnett, referred to in your last issue by Mr. Theodore Watts? Mr. Watts states that the late George Borrow told him (he knows not on what authority) that it was "written by Goldsmith from Gwinnett's dictation for a platter of cow-heel." In the British Museum Catalogue it is attributed to Isaac Bickerstaff, but could not have been written by the lyrical dramatist of that name. In referring to the story in my 'In Kent with Charles Dickens,' I have ventured to suggest that there was another writer of that name, now unknown. It would be strange indeed if Swift, Steele, and Goldsmith all used the same *nom de plume*.

T. FROST.

PSYCHOMETRY.

IN a recent review of Sinnett's 'Occult World' reference was made to Madame H. Blavatsky and her pretended power of quoting passages from books to which she never had access. It may, perhaps, be worth while to point out that this power is neither more nor less than the faculty called psychometry, said to have been discovered by a Dr. Buchanan in 1841 (*vide* J. R. Buchanan, M.D., 'Outlines of Lectures on the Neurological System of Anthropology'). According to Madame Blavatsky, "This faculty enables a certain class of sensitive persons to receive from any object held in the hand or against the forehead impressions of the character or appearance of the individual, or any object with which it has previously been in contact. A manuscript, painting, article of clothing or jewellery, no matter how ancient, conveys to the sensitive a vivid picture of the writer, painter, or wearer, even though he lived in the days of Ptolemy or Enoch. Nay more, a fragment of an ancient building will recall its history, and even the scenes which transpired (*sic*) within and about it (!). A bit of ore will carry the soul-vision back to the time when it was in process of formation." Further we are told, "Psychometry proves that every occurrence in Nature, no matter how minute or unimportant, leaves its indelible (!) impress upon physical nature, and as there has been no appreciable molecular disturbance, the only inference possible is, that these images have been produced by that invisible, universal force, ether or astral light." Twenty years after this sup-

posed discovery—which, it is needless to say, is at least as old as Paracelsus—a certain Prof. Denton and his wife took the subject in hand. Between them they published the following work:—Denton (Prof. W. and Elizabeth M. F.), 'The Soul of Things; or, Psychometric Researches and Discoveries,' Boston, 1873. Of Mrs. Denton it is related that when a piece of the skeleton or fragment of the tooth of some antediluvian animal was pressed to her forehead, she was able to perceive the creature as it was when alive, and, more wonderful still, to live for a few brief moments its life and experience its sensations. Human credulity probably never went further than in the foregoing instance.

Perhaps the best possible proof of the non-existence of this faculty is to be found in the facts that it has not yet been employed to elucidate that which Shakespeare left obscure, and that the phials containing the darkness of Egypt and the sound of Damietta's silver bells—not to mention the feather dropped by the angel Gabriel on a memorable occasion—have been left undisturbed in the hands of their respective custodians.

J. L.

THE ST. PETERSBURG LIBRARY.

THE librarians having just held their annual conference, it may be in season to mention, as showing how the multiplication of books in recent years has exceeded previous calculations, that in the Imperial Public Library of St. Petersburg the fresh acquisitions are already beginning to outrun the space provided for them by the last extension of the library. Some ten years ago Dr. Minzloff, Chief Librarian, estimated the total number of volumes in the collection as near a million. Of the fabric he wrote at the same time "dass ihr in räumlicher Beziehung wenigstens für lange zeit nichts zu wünschen übrig bleibt." Since that time, however, large and rapid additions have been spiritedly made, and it now appears that in scarcely any of the saloons is there room for the arrangement of new acquisitions, and in two or three years' time there will be absolutely no space to receive further additions. The authorities of the establishment are accordingly much exercised upon the question of enlarging their premises, and it is expected that some measure in this direction will shortly be adopted. The sum devoted to the purchase of manuscripts and foreign books and the expenses of carriage from abroad has in recent years been on the increase, and not long ago exceeded 20,000 roubles.

The library takes the lead of many others in accessibility and accommodation. The reading room is spacious, and is open in winter till nine o'clock. It is lighted with gas, each table having two low standard lamps with large shades. To ensure the rest of the library from the chances of fire, the reading room is isolated by means of iron partitions. The catalogue of foreign works relating to Russia has been published some years, but there is as yet no general catalogue at the disposal of readers. A class catalogue with numerous subdivisions has, however, been for some time in preparation in the working rooms and promises to be extremely serviceable.

The Imperial Public Library, which was opened to the public in 1814, has grown so rapidly that it is now inferior to few of the great national libraries of Europe in the number and worth, the rarity and antiquity, of its treasures. Several of Russia's literary celebrities have worked as librarians within its walls at one time or other of their lives. It is one of the show places of St. Petersburg, with its spacious saloons and polished floors, its room full of portraits of Peter the Great, and above all its magnificent display of manuscripts, rich alike in artistic, historical, and palæographical interest. Remarkable among these are the Ostromir Gospels, dated 1056-7, the earliest written monument of the Slavonic peoples, and the fine specimens of Slavonic illumination scarcely to be seen out

of St. Petersburg or Moscow, as well as the very ancient Hebrew rolls, and, of course, the celebrated Codex Sinaiticus. Among the special collections is Voltaire's own library, which usually proves a great attraction to visitors. Very many of its volumes bear their former owner's manuscript notes and marginal jottings. A peripatetic lecture upon the library, its contents and associations, is given twice a week (once on Sundays), which usually secures a much interested group of listeners, and suggests the thought that perhaps the plan might be followed with benefit to the public elsewhere.

THE PLYMOUTH LEAT.

4, Seaton Avenue, Plymouth.

AS I am possibly best qualified to state my own argument, will you allow me to inform Q.C. that the point he raises with regard to Sir Francis Drake and the Plymouth Leat is fully dealt with in my paper, for notice of which I am indebted to Mr. Davidson and yourself? I have shown that a large proportion of the work was done by the Corporation, and that Sir Francis was amply compensated for his share. It is to be regretted, therefore, that Q.C. should not have "consulted the documents."

As a matter of fact, the leat is not twenty-five miles long, but seventeen, and for half its course is the utilization of a much older "pot-water stream," running from the Meavy to Warleigh. The new part, from the junction with the Warleigh Leat into Plymouth, was made at the cost of the Corporation, under the direction of their engineer, Robert Lampen, who was paid for his "paines" and in "rewards" after the work was done, in addition to his survey fees. The cutting of this "ditch"—for it was no more—cost the Corporation 47l. 8s. 7d.; and the same amount of work could be done for the same money now, making allowance for the difference in proportionate value. Of the 300l. given by the Corporation to Drake, 100l. was specifically allotted for compensation, while at the very highest estimate the land he bought was not worth more than 50l. If the Corporation made eight miles for 50l., Drake was certainly not underpaid when he had 200l. for improving nine miles of the Warleigh Leat. For the mills built the mill lease was more than ample compensation.

May I add that I see nothing derogatory in Drake's being a good man of business, and that no one has a higher opinion of his bravery and national services than myself? That, however, is no reason why the truth, when ascertained, should not be told, and the credit for the Plymouth Leat transferred from Drake—who never claimed it—to its rightful owners, the ancient Corporation of Plymouth. R. N. WORTH.

VERSES BY SCOTT.

4, Quai de la Douane, Boulogne-sur-Mer.

I HAVE some unpublished lines of Sir Walter Scott which you may like to give to the public. Their origin is interesting equally in an artistic, literary, and psychological point of view, showing out of what few and simple elements a genius like Scott could, with hardly an effort, concoct a pleasing story. My late father, an architect, was a friend of Scott's, and helped him as a friend in the decoration and finishings of Abbotsford. Scott would often dine with my father when in London, and was greatly interested in the garden. In one corner there was some rockwork in which were inserted some fragments of stone ornaments from the ruins of Kilburn Priory; and crowning all was a large, irregularly shaped stone, having a deep red stain, no doubt of ferruginous origin. This stone was sent to my father by Lord Mulgrave in one of his cement vessels, my father having been struck with its appearance on the shore at Whitby; and from these simple, really unconnected facts Scott made out the following story, in verses which might be regarded as a kind of friendly offering in return

for services rendered. Here are the lines; I had supposed them lost, but my sister, in turning over some old papers, found a copy:—

THE MUCKLE STAIN OR BLEEDING STONE OF
KILBURN PRIORY.

For the blessed rood of Sir Gervase the good
The nuns of Kilburn pray.
But for the wretch who shed his blood
No tongue a prayer shall say.

The bells shall ring and the nuns shall sing
Sir Gervase to the blest.
But holiest rites will never bring
His murderer's soul to rest.

Now tell me, I pray, thou palmer grey,
Why thou kneelest at this shrine,
And why dost thou cry so eagerly
Upon the help divine?

Oh, tell me who the man may be,
And what his deadly sin,
That the Church's prayer, for his soul despair
The mercy of Christ may win.—

I cry at this shrine on the help divine
To save the soul of one
Who in death shall lie ere morning light
Upon this ancient stone.

Sir Gervase rode forth far in the North
To Whitby's holy see;
In her bower alone his lady made moan,
A fairer could not be.

His false brother came to the weeping dame:
Oh, I love you dearer than life.—
Hence! would you win to shame and sin
Thy brother's wedded wife?—

He is far away, thou sweet lady,
And none may hear or see,
So, lady bright, this very night,
Oh, open your door to me.

Sir Gervase rides forth far in the North,
'Tis long ere he comes back,
And thine eyes shine out like stars by night
From thy hair of raven black.—

The fire shall burn at the door stone
Ere I open my door to thee,
And thy suit of hell to Sir Gervase I'll tell,
And a traitor's death thou wilt die.—

Then fare ye well, Dame Isabel,
Thou lady of mickle pride;
Thou shalt rue the day thou saidst me nay
When back to thee I ride.

The day declined, the rising wind
Sung shrill on Whitby's sands;
With ear down laid and ready blade,
Behind a rock he stands.

Sir Gervase rode on in thought alone,
Leaving his men behind;
The blow was sure, the flight secure,
But a voice was in the wind:

False brother, spur thy flying steed,
Thou canst not fly so fast
But on this stone where now I bleed
Thyself shalt breathe thy last.

That stone was then on Whitby's shore,
And now behold it here!
And ever that blood is in mine eye,
And ever that voice in mine ear!—

Now, thou palmer grey, now turn thee, I pray,
And let me look in thine eye.
Alas! it burns bright with a fearful light
Like guilt about to die.

That stone is old, and o'er it has rolled
The tempest of many years;
But fiercer rage than of tempest or age
In thy furrowed face appears.—

Oh, speak not thus, thou holy man,
But bend and pray by me,
And give me your aid in this hour of need,
Till I my penance die.

With book and beads, with ave and creed,
Oh, help me while you may;
When the bell tolls one, oh, leave me alone,
For with me you may not stay.

Sore prayed the friar by the grey palmer
As both knelt o'er the stone,
And redder grew the blood-red hue,
And they heard a fearful groan.

Friar, leave me now, on my trembling brow
The drops of sweat run down,
And alone with his spirit I must deal this night
My deadly guilt to atone.

By the morning light the good friar came
By the sinner's side to pray;
But his spirit had flown, and stretched on the
stone

A corse the palmer lay.

And still from that stone at the hour of one—
Go visit it who dare—
The blood runs red and a shriek of dread
Pierces the midnight air.

As a little boy I determined to go and sit on
that stone in the night, and at last conquered
my fear and sat there triumphantly, and have
never feared anything since.

H. G. ATKINSON.

THE PLACE OF STONING.

Jerusalem, August 25, 1881.

HAVING in my letter of the 17th called attention to a few historical notices concerning the mediæval church of St. Stephen, which is alleged to have been built by, and to have contained the tomb of, Eudoxia, and having also made some remarks on the vacillating character of the monkish traditions, I would now say a few words about the Jewish opinions respecting the "Place of Stoning." From various passages in the Talmud, especially Sanhedrin, fol. 23, 1, Bab. Sanhedr., fol. 42, 2, in explanation of

Leviticus xxiv. 14, we learn that the *הַסֵּקִיָּה*, *בֵּית*, Beth Hasekeelah, was without the camp, or, more correctly, "without three camps,"

חֵין לִנִּי מַחֲנֶה, the first *מַחֲנֶה*, or camp, being the Place of the Shechinah, i.e., the Temple, the second the camp of the Levites, and the third Jerusalem, the camp of Israel. In other words, the Place of Stoning was situated outside the city, always supposing the tribunal which condemned the malefactor to have been held within the city.

Maimonides, Sanhedr. xii. 3, p. 96, is of opinion that if the trial took place outside the city, then the place of execution was situated at a distance of *שְׁלוֹשָׁה מִילִין*, that is, three

times the distance a person resident in the city was allowed to walk on the Sabbath from the place where the tribunal sat. We are not, however, told in what direction from the city the place of execution lay. One local Jewish tradition considers the Convent of the Cross (El Mūsallabeh) to be situated on the site of the

בֵּית הַסֵּקִיָּה, and another points to the ground above Jeremiah's Grotto with the precipice as the Place of Stoning. This is, perhaps, the Place of Stoning alluded to in the notice in the *Athenæum* mentioned in my letter of last week. The general opinion amongst those Jews of whom I made inquiries on the subject of the location of the Beth Hasekeelah, who did not seem to know anything of, and to whom I took care not to mention, the traditional sites I have just referred to, is that the Place of Stoning was situated outside the city and not far from the Damascus Gate, or rather the place now occupied by that gate.

The chief arguments in favour of the supposition that the place above Jeremiah's Grotto really was the Jewish Place of Stoning seem to be (1) the tradition; (2) its position outside the city; and (3) the adjacent precipice, though the last does not appear to have been an absolutely necessary adjunct to the Beth Hasekeelah, which, it seems, was a sort of scaffold ("ein Gerüst," Rabbinowicz, 'Einleitung in die Gesetzgebung und die Medicin des Thalmuds, aus dem Französischen übersetzt,' Trier, 1881) from ten to twelve feet high (see Lightfoot on Acts vii. 58), or twice a man's height.

If, therefore, we are able to identify the place above Jeremiah's Grotto with the ancient Jewish Place of Stoning, where after death the bodies of executed criminals were hung up by the hands (a proceeding suggestive of crucifixion), the question very naturally suggests itself as to whether this spot may not have been the Golgotha of the New Testament, conspicuous "afar off" (Mark xv. 40, Luke xxiii. 49), near a great high road leading up "from the country" (Mark

xv. 21, Luke xxiii. 26), and "nigh to" but "without" the city gate. Compare John xix. 20 with Hebrews xiii. 12.

This theory seems to have great probabilities in its favour, though, as I remarked in my former letter, it will probably always remain an open question as to whether the recently discovered Herodian tomb be the actual "Sepulchre in the Garden" or not. J. E. HANANER.

MEDIOLANUM.

39, Plumptre Street, Liverpool.

In the *Athenæum* of February 14th, 1880, there appeared a letter from Mr. T. Rought Jones on the above subject, and on the 6th of March following you published a reply of mine as to Mr. Jones's ideas. On the basis of these two letters Mr. Jones has recently published a small octavo pamphlet—'Mediolanum,' by T. Rought Jones (Bemrose & Sons)—controversial the views I therein expressed. In regard to this latter production, I request the favour of a small portion of your columns to reply to it.

Mr. Jones starts with an assumption of the genuineness of the Itinerary of Richard of Cirencester. Notwithstanding the exposure of this work as a forgery of Bertram's by Carl Wex and Mr. Woodward, and the *coup de grâce* given to it by Prof. Wilson in the *Athenæum* of June 1st, 1867, it is again brought to the surface as an authority. And not content with this, Mr. Jones supposes that there is an error of fifty miles made in the text of Richard's second Itinerary, which distance he accordingly introduces into his corrected text (!) of the Itinerary, and brings it forward as one of the proofs of the site of Mediolanum being at Bearstone.

He also dwells (apparently as if I had advocated it) upon the question of a second Mediolanum in Montgomeryshire. Had he looked at my publications on the subject, he would have seen that it was a theory I had always considered utterly erroneous, and that I had always strongly asserted that the Mediolanum of the 2nd Antonine Itinerary was the same as the station of that name in the 10th Itinerary of the same writer.

Mr. Jones next deals with the passage in my letter, "Where is the road [i.e. Roman] connecting the two stations?" (Tiverton and Bearstone), and gravely says that if I will consult 'Cary's New Itinerary,' p. 287, I shall "find it is there called the Holyhead Road." He also refers me to Pennant's 'Journey from Chester to London' and Teesdale's 'British Atlas,' where he says it is marked as a "mail coach road." I do not dispute for one moment Mr. Jones's assertions; but between "mail coach roads" and "Roman roads" there is a vast difference. The road Mr. Jones refers to I know well, and can unhesitatingly assert that there is not a feature of a Roman road about it, with the exception that between Calverley and Wardle it runs for a short distance upon the line of the Via Devana, there called "Wallfield Pavement." The Roman road is soon afterwards lost (above ground), but points to the "Wall Field" near Nantwich (no doubt a small Roman post), and thence pursues its course to Chesterton, whilst the modern one pursues an irregular course to Nantwich. I should have imagined that Mr. Jones would have known that Roman roads were invariably straight, and not winding ones like that he mentions.

Mr. Jones next remarks, "I notice Mr. Watkin says that Chesterton is on the Via Devana. Now let us see how this road gets there according to an authority followed by Mr. Watkin, viz., 'Ward's History of Stoke-upon-Trent.'" If Mr. Jones has ever read my paper upon 'Mediolanum' in vol. xxx. of the *Archæological Journal* (which he apparently has not done), he will find that I do not quote a word from Ward on the subject of this road. My only reference to that author is with regard to the camp at Chesterton.

Mr. Jones ignores the Via Devana in these terms: "If the Via Devana was a road to any-

where, the reasonable inference is that it was a fairly direct road to Chester, and I am compelled to disregard the unsupported *ipse dixit* of Mr. Watkin, and the topographical Slough of Despond into which Mr. Ward has fallen on this subject." Mr. Jones seems completely ignorant of Dr. Mason's account of this road in Shaw's 'History of Staffordshire' (confirmed by Rev. T. Leman), of the Bishop of Cloyne's account of it in the Cheshire volume of Lysons's 'Magna Britannia,' of Dr. Ormerod's account of it, of the account of it in Nichols's 'History of Leicestershire,' and other accounts. Yet had he read my paper on 'Mediolanum' he would have found all these authorities quoted. The Bishop of Cloyne and the chancellor of his diocese (Rev. T. Leman) walked over this road for its whole course (Colchester to Chester), as they did over nearly all the Roman roads in Britain. This was a century ago, when the progress of agriculture had not done so much to obliterate them. It is in spite of these authorities that Mr. Jones asserts that the road exists upon my "unsupported *ipse dixit*." Had he read the works referred to, he would have found that the Via Devana did not run in the direction that Ward asserts, nor have I published a line in support of Ward's theory. Yet strangely enough Mr. Jones between Chester and Tiverton follows this Via Devana, and then turns off on a modern road to suit his purpose.

Mr. Jones next charges me with making the distance from Mancunium to Condate eighteen miles and then reckoning the thirteen miles from Kinderton to Chesterton as eighteen. He has only to read my 'Mediolanum' to see that I do no such thing. Even had I adopted the first named of these measurements, Mr. Jones would have been in the same position as myself, for he places Condate at Kinderton, as I do.

Mr. Jones finally speaks of "the extensive remains Mr. Watkin insists I ought to discover, but fails to exhibit, at Chesterton. It is as reasonable to look in these days for 'a large walled station' as for Roman sentries at the gates," &c. Here, again, ignorance of what I have written on the subject is conspicuous. Nowhere have I spoken of "extensive remains" above ground. But Mr. Jones is evidently ignorant of the fact that Camden, Erdswick, and Dr. Plot all speak of the existence of the walls of Chesterton. The one living witness as to fragments of them being visible (as late as 1825) is Mr. Joseph Mayer, F.S.A. Mr. Jones's errors seem to arise from his not having read either my own views or one-half of the other authorities on the subject.

I have thus far pointed out Mr. Jones's errors. Now for what can be said in his favour. Like Horsley and all antiquaries who have deeply studied the Antonine Itinerary, I naturally at first looked for Mediolanum in a straight line between Bury Walls and Kinderton. Had I there found the vestiges of a walled *castrum*, either in the neighbourhood of Bearstone or elsewhere, with Roman roads connecting it with the two stations above named, I should at once have concluded that it was Mediolanum. But after the most patient search nothing of the sort could be found, even with the most diligent inquiry. And, as I remarked in my letter to you, "If the newly discovered camp fulfils on further exploration the necessary conditions," I shall only be too glad to award to Mr. Jones the merit of the discovery. At present his remarks present to us only an earthwork in the wilderness. And he seems to be ignorant of a fact which may be of importance to his theory (probably through not knowing the Bishop of Cloyne's researches), and which years ago induced me all the more to search for Mediolanum in this neighbourhood, viz., a Roman road running south from Kinderton, and traced to Betley and Madely, where it was lost. It is mentioned by Dr. Wilkes, Mr. Whitaker, the Bishop of Cloyne, and Dr. Ormerod, and appears to have gone on to Newport, thence to Wroxeter.

It passed about four miles to the west of Chesterton, and three to the east of Mr. Jones's camp at Bearstone; but it does not appear to have been a military road of the Higher Empire, as those named in the Itinerary were, but a smaller road made during the later period of the Roman power.

In conclusion, we have at Chesterton a Roman site, known to have been walled, where five or six Roman roads converged, the distances along which in two cases out of three agree with the Itinerary (for I admit that in the third, i.e., from Bury Walls to Chesterton, the distance is not satisfactory), and as I remarked in my previous letter, "until a better solution presents itself I must hold the opinion that Chesterton has the greatest claim to be considered the site of the lost station." I shall be glad if Mr. Jones can prove it to have been at Bearstone, as thereby the ideas of Horsley and the first impressions of many other antiquaries, amongst whom I include myself, will be confirmed.

Amongst minor errors in the work is the statement that the camp at Bury Walls cannot be the site of Rutunium, as from its extent (twenty acres) "all the Roman soldiers in Britannia Prima would not have sufficed to defend" it. What, then, should we say of Silchester (102 acres) and Wroxeter (over 200)? Camden specially tells us of the ruins of the city existing at Bury Walls and the Roman bricks found there. Mr. Jones calls it an "aboriginal" work, as he also does Chesterton, in spite of its rectangular lines and the fact of half-a-dozen Roman roads converging on it.

W. THOMPSON WATKIN.

P.S.—Mr. Jones asserts (p. 11) that I have "a 'chief difficulty,' viz., the enlinkment of Condate with the camp at Kinderton near Middlewich." He surely either cannot have understood my letter or is in complete ignorance of my views, for the difficulty has been to disabuse the minds of antiquaries of the modern idea that Condate was at Wilderspool. I have always, and in the teeth of strong opposition, upheld the claim of Kinderton as the site of Condate. In fact, I have long been the only modern antiquary who has contended for it. Mr. Jones is only reproducing my views on this point instead of advancing fresh ones.

NOTES ON THE STRUCTURE OF SHELLEY'S 'PROMETHEUS UNBOUND.'

A FEW notes on certain peculiarities of structure of this greatest work of our supreme lyrical poet—peculiarities to which, so far as I am aware, attention has not hitherto been publicly called, save in one specified instance—may prove interesting to some of your readers. The substance of these notes was communicated several years ago to Mr. W. M. Rossetti on the occasion of his two-volume edition of Shelley's poems (1870).

I. Is there not some confusion in the dialogue between the Earth and Prometheus leading up to the fine "effect" of Jupiter's own Phantasm being evoked to recite the tremendous curse against Jupiter? Prometheus calls upon the Mountains, the Springs, the Air, the Whirlwinds for the curse which he would now recall. They respond one after another, giving voice to the convulsion of terror wherewith it agonized them, and the Earth, closing the responses, tells how the Caverns, the hollow Heaven, and the waves of Ocean resounded "Misery!" The convulsion of terror is obviously natural; but wherefore the cry of "Misery!" when the curse smote the fell Tyrant of Earth and Heaven, and predicted his fall? When the curse has been recited to Prometheus, and he avows that he repents and recalls it, the Earth cries, naturally enough,

Misery, oh misery to me,
That Jove at length should vanquish thee;

and the naturalness of this misery at the revoca-

tion makes more startling the apparent unnaturalness of the misery at the imprecation.

To this first speech of the Earth and those of the elements preceding, the Titan answers,

I hear a sound of voices: not the voice
Which I gave forth;

and he goes on urging his Mother and his Brethren to comply with his appeal. The Earth answers, "They dare not"; and this he understands, for he asks, "Who dares?" Then an awful whisper rises up, tingling as lightning tingles, an "inorganic voice," which he feels, but cannot comprehend, and the Earth says:—

How canst thou hear

Who knowest not the language of the dead?

This is in her living, intelligible voice, for he responds:—

Thou art a living spirit: speak as they.

And the Earth answers:—

I dare not speak like life, lest Heaven's fell King
Should hear, and link me to some wheel of pain
More torturing than the one whereon I roll.

And this is in her inarticulate voice; for she calls upon him to earnestly hearken, with but a faint struggling hope that so he may apprehend. And he does not apprehend; only awful thoughts sweep obscurely through his brain, and he feels faint with vague emotion; and the Earth, still inarticulately, murmurs in despair,

No, thou canst not hear:

Thou art immortal, and this tongue is known
Only to those who die,

just as afterwards (Act III. sc. iii. v. 110) she says to Asia, who questions her about death:—

It would avail not to reply;

Thou art immortal, and this tongue is known
But to the uncommunicating dead.

Prometheus demands, "And what art thou, O melancholy Voice?" and she answers in a long speech beginning, "I am the Earth, thy mother," and this speech is in her natural living voice, for he clearly comprehends it, replying, "Venerable mother!" and she continues the same voice in a second speech, which also by his reply he clearly comprehends; yet in these two great speeches, uttered in the voice that is heard of the Gods (since the other, vv. 140-1, is distinguished as the voice the Gods hear not), she seems to have quite forgotten her fear of "Heaven's fell King"; extolling Prometheus, bewailing his martyrdom, denouncing with the utmost freedom "our almighty Tyrant," avowing "a mother's hate breathed on her child's destroyer," branding the Gods as the offspring of "all-prolific Evil." By this fearless outspeaking in the very spirit of the Titan's curse, whose subsequent revocation, as already noticed, she vehemently laments, the Earth, to my understanding, sharply contradicts herself, and altogether stultifies the evocation of the Phantasm of Jupiter, by destroying all the reasons alleged for recourse to it.

II. There appears considerable confusion as to the time occupied by the action of the drama—what may be termed the interior time of the poem. As for its date or exterior time, this is, of course, in an ideal æon beyond the range of chronology, unimpeached by anachronism; so that, notwithstanding the antiquity of the *dramatis personæ* and fable, the catastrophe points to a far apocalyptic future, and the allusions to the most recent discoveries of science are just as much in place as those to prehistoric traditions. In the beginning we are told that Panthea and Ione are seated at the feet of Prometheus: "Time, Night. During the Scene, Morning slowly breaks." And this single scene occupies the whole of Act I., throughout which the two Oceanides are awake watching ("Ever thus we watch and wake," v. 230); witnessing and chorally commenting the apparition of the Phantasm of Jupiter, the arrival and departure of Mercury, the assaults of the Furies, the vision of Christ, the ministrations of the Spirits. At the end of this act Panthea bids farewell to Prometheus (note likewise her precedent speech and his answer), giving reason for her going:—

But the eastern star looks white,
And Asia waits in that far Indian vale,
The scene of her sad exile.

In the opening of Act II. Asia is awaiting Panthea :—

This is the season, this the day, the hour ;
At sunrise thou shouldst come, sweet Sister mine ;

The point of one white star is quivering still
Deep in the orange light of widening morn
Beyond the purple mountains.

When Panthea arrives, and is told "How late thou art !" she replies,

Pardon, great Sister ! but my wings were faint
With the delight of a remembered dream ;

and in her next speech,

As I have said,
With our Sea-Sister at his feet I slept.

Then two dreams came. One I remember not.
But in the other ;

and she goes on to relate it, ending :—

I listened through the night when sound was none.
Ione awakened then, and said to me :

I answered not, for the eastern star grew pale,
But fled to thee.

The identity of time is marked in the three leading passages by the same closing signal, the paling or whitening of the eastern star.

We have thus, as it appears to me, the manifest contradiction that in Act I. Panthea and Ione are watching the action and bearing part in the dialogue throughout the dawning of this first day up to the moment of Panthea's departure to visit Asia ; while in the opening of Act II. they are both sleeping, Panthea dreaming, throughout the same period, save the last moments, in which Panthea gathers her thoughts and listens, and Ione awakens and speaks.

Following on with this first scene of Act II., we find that almost immediately Panthea's other dream appears (and this Dream, as a Shape that speaks, ought to be in the list of *dramatis personæ* along with the Phantasm, the Spirits, and the Echoes), and Asia, picturing it, concludes :—

Yet 'tis a thing of air,
For through its grey robe gleams the golden dew
Whose stars the noon has quenched not.

The Echoes also which come after the Dream with the same summons, "Follow ! Follow !" sing of "the noontide darkness deep" of the caverns, and "the woodland noontide dew" ; and Asia and Panthea "follow ere the voices fade away." Yet at the end of scene ii., when they have thus passed into the forest, the second Faun says,

But should we stay to speak, noontide would come,
And thwart Silenus find his goats undrawn,
leaving us still in the forenoon.

JAMES THOMSON.

Literary Gossip.

MR. THOMAS HUGHES has written out his reminiscences of the late Dean Stanley, especially with reference to his Rugby life and his work as a pacificator in the High Church difficulties at the east of London. The paper will appear in an early number of *Harper's Magazine*.

WITH regard to the sale of the Sunderland Library, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson write that it will take place in three, or possibly in four, divisions.

MR. W. M. W. CALL is the author of the notable article on 'George Eliot, her Life and Writings,' in the current number of the *Westminster Review*. Mr. Call and his wife (daughter of the late Dr. Brabant, a lady who began the work of translating Strauss's 'Leben Jesu,' afterwards given over to her friend Miss Evans) were among the early friends of George Eliot, and their intimacy continued until her death.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS have in the press two volumes entitled 'Stories from the State Papers,' by Mr. A. C. Ewald, of the Record Office. The work consists of

articles reprinted from the *Times*, *Edinburgh Review*, *Westminster Review*, and the more popular magazines, based upon the historical discoveries in the various Calendars of the State Papers. The 'Stories' will be dedicated by special permission to the Master of the Rolls.

MESSRS. BLACKIE & SON are about to publish a new edition of Ogilvie's 'Imperial Dictionary of the English Language.' It will be in four volumes, the first of which will appear on November 1st, and the others will follow at intervals of four months. In this edition 30,000 words have been added, making the total 130,000.

'TILL Death us do Part' is the title of a new novel by Mrs. J. K. Spender, author of 'Godwyn's Ordeal,' to be shortly published in three volumes by Messrs. Hurst & Blackett.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS will publish a new volume by Mark Twain. Its title is 'Prince and Pauper,' and it will be fully illustrated in the style of 'A Tramp Abroad.'

MISS BETHAM-EDWARDS will shortly bring out, under the title of 'Untravelled France,' a new volume describing journeys and sojourns among French friends in the little-known picturesque district of Le Morvan (Nièvre) and in Burgundy and Auvergne.

THE Hon. Albert Canning has in the press an historical novel, the scene of which is laid chiefly in the north of Ireland, and the period illustrated is the end of the seventeenth century. The publishers are Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co.

THE same publishers have in preparation a book of children's poetry, illustrated by Mr. J. G. Sowerby and Mr. Thomas Crane. The title is to be 'At Home.'

MR. C. KENT is preparing for Messrs. G. Routledge & Sons a new work, entitled 'The Modern Seven Wonders of the World,' the book being, in fact, an anecdotal and historical description in sequence of the steam engine, the electric telegraph, the sewing machine, the photograph, the spectroscope, the electric light, and the telephone. It will appear first from month to month in *Every Boy's Magazine*, and will be published separately as a book on completion.

THE title of Mr. Ernest A. Floyer's book, which has already been referred to in these columns, will be 'Unexplored Baluchistan : a Survey, with Observations, Astronomical, Geographical, Botanical, &c., of a Route through Western Baluchistan, Mekran, Bashakird, Persia, Kurdistan, and Turkey.' It will be issued, with several illustrations and a map specially prepared for it, by Messrs. Griffith & Farran early in the autumn.

THE fac-simile of the first volume of the Codex Alexandrinus has just been finished. It will be issued with an introduction by Mr. E. M. Thompson, F.S.A., Keeper of the MSS. at the British Museum.

'ROUTLEDGE'S CHRISTMAS NUMBER' is the title of the shilling annual issued this year by Messrs. Routledge & Sons. It will contain illustrations and Christmas tales by eminent artists and authors of England, France, Germany, and America. Editions in the English, French, and German languages will be published simultaneously in

London, New York, Paris, and Munich. It will be illustrated by eight large pictures, printed in colours from designs by Randolph Caldecott, Walter Crane, Kate Greenaway, Gustave Doré, C. Delort, Adrien Marie, E. Nietzky, and L. Hopkins. The cover has been designed by the French artist H. Giacomelli.

MESSRS. GRIFFITH & FARRAN will publish shortly 'Every-day Life in our Public Schools,' consisting of sketches by scholars of Eton, Winchester, Westminster, Shrewsbury, Harrow, Rugby, and Charterhouse. Brief notices of St. Paul's and Merchant Taylors' Schools and Christ's Hospital are added. Mr. Charles E. Pascoe is the editor.

THE same publishers also announce 'Indian Summer : Autumn Poems,' compiled by L. Clarkson ; 'Grandma's Attic Treasures,' by Mary D. Brine ; 'The Young Wife's Own Book,' by Dr. Lionel A. Weatherley ; 'Lois Leggett,' by Francis Carr ; 'A Complete Guide to the Game of Chess,' by H. F. L. Meyer ; and 'Hillsland as it was Seventy Years Ago,' by Rev. F. H. Morgan.

MESSRS. WARNE & Co. will issue a new volume by Mr. H. R. Clinton, entitled 'From Crecy to Assaye : Four Centuries of the Military History of England.'

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. will next month commence the publication of a new serial work, entitled 'Our Homes, and How to make them Healthy,' and a popular edition of 'Picturesque Europe.'

MESSRS. ABEL HEYWOOD & SON have ready a cheap "bijou reprint" of 'Mr. Asgill's Defence upon his Expulsion from the House of Commons of Great Britain in 1707,' followed by the two chapters from the 'Doctor' which Southey devoted to Asgill.

WE hear that Mr. Milner, of Manchester, has in the press a second edition of his recently published work, 'Country Pleasures.'

A NEW illustrated monthly magazine of fine art and fiction, to bear the title of *Art and Letters*, will make its appearance on the 1st of October. Messrs. Remington & Co. will be the publishers.

MR. ELLIOT STOCK announces that the memorials of Bishop McIlwaine, by Canon Carus, will be published early in October.

THE *Clerical World* is a new weekly paper announced by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton. It is to contain reports of the best sermons of the day. The first number will appear shortly.

IT is stated that the Rev. Alex. Cameron is preparing an etymological dictionary of the Gaelic language. Such a work would be welcomed by Gaelic students, as etymology is the weak point in the standard Gaelic dictionary issued more than fifty years ago by the Highland Society.

MR. WM. FRASER, of Edinburgh, well known as the author of 'The Book of Caerlaverock,' 'The Lennox,' 'The Scotts of Buccleuch,' and other family histories, all of which were privately printed, has completed yet another of a similar nature, in two volumes, entitled 'The Red Book of Menteith.' Mr. Fraser was a short time ago appointed to the office of Deputy-Keeper of the Records in H.M. Register House, Edinburgh, after labouring in the

Sasine Department for a quarter of a century.

MR. W. A. CLOUSTON, of Glasgow, whose 'Arabian Poetry for English Readers' was noticed in the *Athenæum* of January 22nd of this year, is preparing a series of stories from the Talmud.

WE regret to hear of the death of Mr. Richard Wright Procter, of Manchester, which occurred on Sunday last. He was prominent amongst Lancashire authors as the narrator of events which took place in Manchester many years ago. His most recent works were 'Manchester Streets' and 'Bygone Manchester.' He contributed a number of papers to the *Manchester Guardian*. He also wrote some poems, several of which were printed in the late Mr. Harland's 'Ballads and Songs of Lancashire.'

THE Early English Text Society's issues for the present year are now almost ready to send out. They include in the "Original Series" the first part of the Anglo-Saxon 'Lives of Saints,' edited by Prof. Skeat, and the 'Catholicon Anglicum' (issued in conjunction with the Camden Society), edited by Mr. Sidney Hertridge. This volume will be accompanied with autotypes of the two MSS. In the "Extra Series" the 'English Charlemagne Romances' are continued, Dr. Hausknecht editing the 'Sowdone of Babyloyn' from the MS. in the library of the late Sir T. Phillipps, and Mr. Hertridge the second and concluding part of Caxton's 'Lyt of Charles the Grete.' The 'Charlemagne Romances' will be completed next year with the pieces contained in the Auchinleck MS. and the comical poem of 'Rauf Coilyear.'

Two interesting manuscript Portolani of the fifteenth century have recently been added to the Manuscript Department of the British Museum. They were presented to the Trustees by the Lords of the Admiralty.

MR. W. THOMPSON WATKIN has now ready for the press his work on Roman Lancashire, to be published by subscription. In this work the author proposes to engrave every article of interest now extant, including altars, tablets, rings, fibulae, and other minor objects. The numerous hoards of coins found in the county will also form a prominent section; and the woodcuts of the articles will be introduced into the text in the same manner as in the 'Lapidarium Septentrionale,' published by the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle.

MR. O. B. FROTHINGHAM, author of 'Transcendentalism in New England,' a 'Life of Theodore Parker,' and other works, sailed by the Gallia for New York. Mr. Frothingham was in Europe for two years, seeking to recover his health, which is sufficiently restored for him to return to literary work. He has, however, given up his profession of minister of religion, and will hereafter devote himself to literature. His next work will be a biography of the late George Ripley, for many years literary editor of the New York *Tribune*, in earlier years a leader in the rationalistic controversies of Boston, and a founder of the "Brook Farm Community," whose monument is Hawthorne's 'Blithedale Romance.'

THE little town of Concord, in New England, has in its public library a department

for works written by authors who reside or have resided in the town. It contains the works of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry Thoreau, George Ripley, George William Curtis, Margaret Fuller, William Ellery Channing, the Rev. Mr. Simmons, Elizabeth Peabody, Mrs. Horace Mann, Moncure D. Conway, Julian Hawthorne, A. Bronson Alcott, F. B. Sanborn, Dr. Harris, and perhaps two or three others.

AN ancient papyrus MS. has been found near Bakshali, in the Mardan Tahsil, Peshawar district. The MS. is in a very bad condition, being, it is said, for the most part like dry tinder, but in some of the pages the character, which much resembles Prakrit, is clear. It has been sent to Lahore for examination.

THE first volume of Dr. Birch's edition of Prof. Ebers's 'Egypt,' translated by Miss Clara Bell, is not far from the point of completion. Dr. Birch will assist General di Cesnola in his forthcoming illustrated album of the Cypriote antiquities in the New York Museum.

THE death is announced from Berlin, at the advanced age of eighty-three, of Christian Friedrich Scherenberg, a once popular military poet, now almost forgotten. Scherenberg, who was successively a merchant and an actor, made his poetical debut with an epic poem entitled 'Waterloo,' which met with great favour, and obtained for him a post as librarian in the Prussian War Office. Other poems of warlike themes followed, distinguished by patriotism, ardour, and realism, and ensuring for their author a permanent, if not a high, place in the ranks of German poets.

CAV. NARDUCCI, the esteemed librarian of the University of Rome, is endeavouring to persuade the Italian Government to print a general catalogue of the books in the public libraries of Italy. Should this important undertaking be agreed to, its fulfilment will be a great step towards the compilation of the universal catalogue of literature which has more than once been advocated at the meetings of the Library Association.

HERR F. A. BROCKHAUS, of Leipzig, is about to publish the thirteenth edition of his 'Conversations-Lexicon,' a work which has existed since 1796.

PROF. SCHIPPER, of Vienna, has in the press 'A History of Old English Versification.'

PROF. DELITZSCH, of Leipzig, has arrived in London on a short visit to study some of the newly acquired Assyrian inscriptions in the national collections.

THE "Lessing Freidenkerverein" of Berlin offers a prize of 500 marks for the best short essay 'On the Moral Laws as a Guide for Conduct in the Leading Relations of Human Life.' The exposition is to be in simple language, and must be grounded exclusively upon ascertained facts of natural knowledge ("unzweifelhafte Thatsachen der natürlichen Erkenntniss"). Competitors may write in German, English, French, or Italian, and must send in their works before November 1st, 1882, to Dr. Wilhelm Löwenthal, the president of the Verein, at 7, Hildebrandtstrasse, Berlin, W. The function of examining the works and adjudging the prize

has been accepted by Dr. Eduard Lasker, the well-known deputy of the Reichstag, Prof. Hermann Grimm, and Prof. Wilhelm Scherer. In the event of a work in a foreign language obtaining the prize it will be translated into German at the expense of the Verein. The prize is to be given on Lessing's birthday, January 22nd, 1883.

THE now progressing destruction of the houses between the south end of Chancery Lane and Bell Yard, Temple Bar, will remove a part of the famous Cock Tavern and Izaak Walton's house, or at least the building which, if not the author's tenement itself, occupies the site of the house of the Complete Angler.

THE daily press has teemed with complaints of the disastrous policy of the Metropolitan Board of Works as carried into effect in the renumbering of the houses in Oxford Street. Apart from the waste of trouble and money which has attended this proceeding, the result is unfortunate in abolishing all the landmarks of the history of this great thoroughfare, and in producing utter confusion of the data which gave interest to not a few of the houses. In numerous other streets which, for the sake of an unimportant uniformity, have been subjected to renumbering, all records are now practically useless. Yet there are many streets with histories which ought not to have been blurred in this way. Gower Street, now one of the noisiest thoroughfares, was at one time, although among the dullest in London, filled with memories of literary men and artists who had lived there. Renumbering has blotted out everything of the sort. Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, is another case in point.

WE have to record the death, which happened on Tuesday last, of Dr. Manning, one of the secretaries of the Religious Tract Society. He was the author of several works published by the Society.

SCIENCE

A Manual of the Nilagiri District in the Madras Presidency. By H. B. Grigg, B.A. (Madras, Government Press.)

MAINLY on account of its equable temperature, the Nilagiri or Neilgherry district of Southern India has enjoyed a popular reputation for many years past, and has become the favourite retreat for those fleeing from the overpowering heat of the Madras plains. Like its sister place of resort in Northern India, Simla, it has not escaped the shafts of ferocious economists, who would fain deny overworked legislators the chance of annually recruiting their health. But, happily for the efficiency of Indian administration, these views have not as yet prevailed. There is a good deal of interest, too, attached to this hilly tract in the acclimatization of tea, coffee, and chinchona—enterprises which have now emerged from the region of experiment into that of genuine success, so that a manual or statistical report on the Nilagiris (as we suppose we must spell the name in deference to the official mode) deserves more than a passing notice. Physically the Nilagiri mountain block plays an important part as a divider not only of winds and water, but also of races and people, or, viewed in

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another light, as a pillar marking their point of contact, just as it marks the point of union of the great mountain systems of peninsular India. The scenery of the plateau is depicted in fascinating colours in Breeks's 'Nilgiri Tribes,' and we can well understand how strong an attraction its breezy uplands and quasi-English landscapes must have for Europeans condemned to languish in the torrid plains 5,000 feet below. During the past twenty years much of the indigenous forest has been felled, but there has been more than a counterbalancing gain in the variety afforded by the rich green of the tea and coffee bushes, the larch-like forests of gums (Eucalypti), and the pyramidal shapes of the Australian blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*). The extended cultivation of some of these products and the construction of public works at Ootacamund and Wellington have caused a great increase of population, the total number of which now borders closely on 50,000, and it is gratifying to observe that the same causes have contributed to improve the condition of the hill people. In early descriptions of the country the miserable condition of the Badagas (one of the principal hill tribes) is more than once referred to, but now we have the gratifying testimony of the Sanitary Commissioner that

"the position of the Badagas has materially improved. They are now tiling their houses, their women and children earn money on the tea and coffee estates, they buy *rugi* and grain from the low country, and get a better market for their straw and cattle. They wear jewels of gold and silver saved from their earnings. Of course 1877 was a bad year for them, but as a rule they have borne the famine pressure better than the low-country people."

For the greater part of the year the climate of the Nilagiris may be generally described as dry, bracing, and exhilarating, and more equable than that of Europe. English vegetables grow almost as well as in England, and English garden flowers are here produced in profusion almost all the year round. The ascent to this region is made in from five to ten hours, so the change from a temperature of 85° Fahr. or more to a mean of 56° is one that Europeans should undergo with caution. Especial care has been devoted by Mr. Grigg to an elaborate enumeration of the products, mineral, vegetable, and animal, of the district, and in this respect the present volume is likely to prove serviceable for purposes of scientific reference. The ethnology has been exhaustively discussed by other writers, notably by Breeks in his recently issued work; but there is a good deal of interest in the subject, and the chapters in the present book describing the manners and customs of the Todas, Kotas, Kurumbas, Irulas, and Badagas fully merit perusal.

It was not till after the fall of Seringapatam that the British became acquainted with the Nilagiri district. The Marquis of Wellesley, being justly of opinion that a more complete knowledge of these countries was absolutely necessary, resolved to have the recently annexed territories of Mysore carefully surveyed—a task that was entrusted to a distinguished antiquary and scholar, Col. Colin Mackenzie, and an indefatigable colleague, Dr. Francis Buchanan, to whom the geographical and economic inquiries were respectively entrusted. In 1818 the

history of European occupation commenced with two gentlemen who made a shooting expedition to the district, soon to be followed by more numerous visitors; for in 1820 a party of upwards of twenty gentlemen had visited the plateau, as well as one lady, name unknown, who reached thither "without any inconvenience to herself and without giving particular trouble to the bearers." The climatic advantages of the locality soon attracted notice, and Mr. Sullivan, Collector of Coimbatour, reported of it in enthusiastic terms:—"There is no known Asiatic or African climate (with the exception of that of the Nepaul mountains) so cool and equable throughout the year as the Neilgherries, and I have no doubt these mountains will become the general resort for invalids, instead of the Cape and the Isle of France." It was, however, reserved for a civilian governor, Mr. Lushington, to make the hills a permanent abode of Europeans and to put their sanitary repute beyond possibility of doubt. It was during his governorship, which lasted till July, 1848, that coffee-planting by Europeans began on the Wainad and on the western slopes of the Mudumales; while a further act which will cause his name to be remembered was the determination to establish a military station on the hills—not a mere convalescent dépôt, but a cantonment, with a British regiment permanently located there. Since then the development of the district has been rapid. The coffee plant has been successfully introduced, and the area under cultivation amounted in 1877 to about 12,000 acres, the produce of which was valued at about twenty lakhs of rupees. Tea has also prospered, though not to the same extent, the acreage being 7,000, and the yield close on four lakhs in value. The most successful product, however, is the chinchona tree, the planting of which has been attended with the most gratifying results, not only in the Nilagiris, but in other parts of India as well, the capital expenditure and interest on its introductory outlay having been fully recouped, while a magnificent annual income is now further accruing to Government. Considering that the primary object of this undertaking was the supply of a cheap febrifuge to the fever-stricken natives of India, this financial success of the enterprise, though not the main object, is nevertheless an incident of a most satisfactory character. It is a very striking proof of the success which may confidently be looked for in acclimatizing experiments where the preparations, the plan, and the execution of the scheme are vested in practical and competent hands.

Professional Papers of the Corps of Royal Engineers. Vols. IV. and V. New Series. (Stanford.)

The first of these two volumes contains in two parts the *Occasional Papers* issued during the year 1880, which relate to matters especially interesting to military engineers in connexion with the late wars in Afghanistan and Zululand; besides which Major Fraser's incidents in the Russo-Turkish war, and the details of Russian military railways constructed during the campaign of 1877-78, given by Capt. Sale, are valuable contributions to military literature. Volume V., however, deserves a separate notice, consisting as it does of one paper, on Plevna, by Capt. G. S. Clarke, R.E., Instructor at

Cooper's Hill College and author of 'Graphic Statics.' According to Major Vetch, R.E., the Secretary of the Royal Engineer Institute and editor of these *Professional Papers*, who in June, 1879 (Lieut. F. V. Greene's preface is dated April, 1879), suggested that Capt. Clarke should undertake this work, "The subject is one that has been treated by several foreign writers in a partial manner, but no complete history of the defence of Plevna has appeared in our own or any other tongue." Capt. Clarke in a long preface explains how he undertook the arduous preparation of this important paper, and mentions the names of the officers who have assisted him; besides, he gives a list showing the sources of information drawn upon by him for his material. Thirteenth on this list, and not especially mentioned, is the well-known book of Lieut. Greene, of the United States Engineers, 'The Russian Army and its Campaigns,' published nearly two years ago. It is with great surprise, then, that we find this original paper, purporting to be a "study" and monograph on the Plevna operations, to consist mainly of Lieut. Greene's work condensed and paraphrased with a few unimportant interpolations. In these days, when English authors and publishers are so bitterly complaining of the absence of proper copyright treaties with America, and of the so-called piracy of English works by Transatlantic publishers, it is humiliating to find that the only professional account of the most important defence of fieldworks in modern times, on the grandest scale imaginable, as yet published in England should be derived altogether from an American source without due acknowledgment. It may be said that the *Occasional Papers* are not published for public sale, but merely printed for private distribution to the members of the Royal Engineer Institute; but as a matter of fact these papers are spread abroad, and will be read by the keenest of military critics on the Continent and in America, and the reputation of the Royal Engineer Institute is at stake. Of course, compilations must necessarily include a mass of quotation, but in this instance the whole arrangement of the subject, its plan, sequence, chapters—nay, almost paragraphs—follow Lieut. Greene's plain and perspicuous narrative in a more than remarkable manner. The coincidence of the parallel passages, page after page, cannot fail to strike the most careless reader who compares the two. It would take too much space in a literary journal to quote instances to prove the above; no doubt this will be done by military critics in the professional papers. We need merely add that at p. 3 a table showing the strength of all arms of the Russian army is given, quoting one in an appendix, with a note that these figures have been taken "mainly" from Lieut. Greene's work; that a diagram (p. 133) is also acknowledged from the same source, and a statement of General Skobelev's to Lieut. Greene is similarly recognized. With these rare exceptions the major portion, to the extent of two-thirds of the paper, is but an indifferent hash-up of the original report by the clever American *attaché*, whose clear, terse criticisms, derived from personal observation in the field, are coolly appropriated by the sedentary instructor at Cooper's Hill as original and authoritative *dicta* of a master in the art of war. The maps and diagrams attached are rudely lithographed, and will not bear comparison with the exquisite specimens of foreign topographical delineation to be found in the atlas of the American report. This, however, being a matter of expense, cannot be urged as a reproach to the R.E. Institute.

GEOGRAPHICAL BOOKS, MAPS, ETC.

MESSRS. VIRTUE & Co. send us the first three volumes of a translation, by Mr. E. G. Ravenstein, of the *Universal Geography* of M. Elisée Reclus. The merits of this excellent work are well known, and it has lost nothing in the hands

of Mr. Ravenstein, who has very judiciously curtailed the occasionally diffuse original. The work is so replete with information and so admirably illustrated that there is no book in English that can at all compare with it, and it is to be hoped that it may meet with a wide circulation in this country. It will do more to spread a sound knowledge of geography than all the gazetteers ever invented. We hope to criticize it in detail when completed.

Messrs. Hachette have done well to issue a cheap edition of *Elisée Reclus's* delightful *Voyage à la Sierra-Nevada de Sainte-Marthe*. Although written in 1861, this record of travels has lost nothing in freshness, for nature changes her face but slowly, and even man in these South American republics remains almost stationary. M. Reclus occasionally grows enthusiastic on the destinies in store for a race in which Europeans, negroes, and American Indians are blended. "A day will come," he says, "when they who speak disdainfully of the Latin race in America, and see in it only the destined prey of Anglo-Saxon invaders, will be loud in chanting its glories." Possibly; but that day is evidently still far distant, and the twenty years which have elapsed since M. Reclus penned his preface have not apparently brought it much nearer. We certainly differ from the author in his estimate of the Latin race of America, but none of his readers can remain unimpressed by the poetical beauty of his language, the noble spirit of humanity which pervades his pages, and the honesty of purpose which is ever his guiding principle.

We have received Part VIII. of G. Phillips Bevan's *Statistical Atlas* (Johnston). The maps show fortresses, military institutions, and distribution of the troops; the letter-press furnishes a summary of the estimates and of the strength of the military and naval forces.

Phillips' *Handy Atlas of the Counties of Ireland*, constructed by J. Bartholomew (Philip & Son), consists of thirty-three maps, neatly engraved and coloured to indicate the baronies. An index to about ten thousand names is appended.

The *Tourists' Atlas Map of Scotland* (Johnston) is a handy edition of the well-known map in the 'Royal Atlas,' divided into sections and bound up in book form, so as to go easily into the side-pocket of a coat. A key map affords easy reference to any of the sections, and travellers in search of information are spared the trouble of opening out a large map, mounted in the usual way on cloth. An index of the 12,000 places shown on the map is appended.

Sir J. Fyfe's paper on the *Rainfall and Climate in India*, read before the Victoria Institute, has been issued in pamphlet form by Mr. Stanford, accompanied by Mr. Trelawny Saunders's rain map for 1880. Dr. Chevers, in the course of the discussion which followed the reading of the paper, gave several amusing instances of the way in which meteorological phenomena were registered in India twenty or thirty years ago. The records of these observations were handed over to Herr Schlagintweit. Dr. Chevers is anxious that they should be recovered, and will no doubt be glad to learn that Herr Schlagintweit has embodied the whole of them in his paper on 'Die Regenverhältnisse in Indien,' recently published in the *Transactions of the Bavarian Academy*.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

LAST year (1880) was the bicentenary of the appearance of the remarkable comet by which Newton, applying to its motions his principle of universal gravitation, first showed that comets, like planets, move in conic sections, and therefore put forth his surmise that some of them at least might move in ellipses and return at regular intervals. Next year (1882) will be the bicentenary of the appearance of the comet respecting which Halley, acting on Newton's

hint, and comparing its orbit with that of comets seen in 1531 and 1607 (so far as these could be accurately determined), was first led boldly to predict its actual return. Before that could be the case the comet would have to make an excursion far beyond the bounds of the planetary system as it was known in Halley's time, when Saturn was supposed to be the most distant of the planets. We now know that at its greatest distance from the sun (about three thousand millions of miles, somewhat less than recently stated in a popular periodical) it is but little beyond the orbit of Neptune. Halley's comet is at present very near that orbit, having commenced its return journey towards the sun in 1873, which will be completed by another perihelion passage in 1911, the last being in 1835. The comet of 1680, if it really does move in an elliptic orbit, has a very much longer period. Halley thought that it might be identical with those of B.C. 43, A.D. 531 and 1106, but the uncertainty of the ancient observations makes this very problematical, whilst the close approach of the comet to the sun when in perihelion has rendered it impossible to obtain an accurate orbit from the observations of 1680 and 1681 (some of the latter, it is interesting to notice, were made by Newton himself), which are all comprised within about four months, from the time of its first discovery by Kirch, on the 14th of November, 1680. But it seems most probable that its period is not 575 but several thousands of years in length. With regard to the comet seen in the reign of Justinian, it is by no means certain whether it appeared in the year 530, 531, or 532. Mr. Hind is of opinion that it may have been an apparition of Halley's comet, which was also probably, he thinks, observed by the Chinese in 608 and possibly in 684, as well as almost certainly in 760, when it was also seen in Europe in the reign of the Eastern emperor Constantine Copronymus.

Next to Algol, which is always above our horizon and visible on any clear night, the most remarkable of the variable stars is Mira or o Ceti, now again ceasing to be visible to the naked eye for a period of five or six months. It is well known that David Fabricius was the first to notice this star in 1596, which he thought from its subsequent disappearance to be a new or temporary star; and that Bayer also saw it seven years later and denoted it by the letter o in the constellation to which it belonged, but failed to perceive that it was the same star which had been seen by Fabricius. It is not so well known that Fokkens was the first to notice a disappearance and also a reappearance, apparently without being aware of the observations of his predecessors, in 1638-9. John Fokkens (for surely it would be better to restore the Friesland astronomer his real name) was born on the 19th of February, 1618, at Holwarden, a village about fourteen miles from Leeuwarden, and took his degree at the University of Franeker before he had completed his twentieth year. He changed his name (according to a practice not unusual at that time) to Phocylides, adding that of Holwardus, from his birthplace. He became Professor of Philosophy at Franeker in 1647, but was cut off by a premature death there on the 12th of January, 1651, in the thirty-third year of his age. It was while observing an eclipse of the moon on the 1st of December, 1638, that his attention was first attracted to this star; he looked for it again repeatedly during the following summer, sometimes in company with Bernardus Fullenius, the Mathematical Professor at Franeker, but all in vain, until, on the 7th of November, 1639, "vesperi celo tandem aliquando claro, forte egressus illud observavi, atque etiamnum cuivis observare liberum relinquere, eodem precise loco eodem situ quo ante." The expression savours of delight at the reappearance of his old friend in the heavens, and to Phocylides Holwardus (if we must still call him by his assumed name) unquestionably belongs the credit of having been

the first to discover a periodically variable star. The series of observations of it afterwards made by Hevelius is referred to in almost every book on astronomy. Our illustrious countryman Halley was the first to point out that the invisibility was only to the naked eye, and that the star was always to be seen with a telescope of sufficient power. But the irregularities of its maximum and minimum brightness and of the length of the period of the changes (which at a mean is about 332 days) continue to make it a very interesting star. Its approximate place is R.A. 2^h 14^m, N.P.D. 93° 31'; at the present time it is on the meridian about two o'clock in the morning, and rises about half-past eight in the evening.

A conjunction of Venus with Regulus occurs soon after midnight on the 25th inst.; and when the planet rises at about half-past two o'clock in the morning its close neighbourhood to that star will be very conspicuous. Jupiter is now nearly stationary, rising soon after eight o'clock in the evening in the constellation Taurus. Saturn a little precedes him, in Aries. Mars has greater northern declination than either, and though not on the meridian until nearly six o'clock in the morning, rises at a quarter before ten in the evening.

The *American Journal of Science* for this month contains an interesting biographical notice of Prof. Benjamin Peirce, who was born at Salem, Mass., on the 4th of April, 1809, and died (as has been already mentioned in the *Athenæum*) at Cambridge, in the same state (where he was Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy at Harvard College), on the 6th of October, 1880.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Fri. Quekett Microscopical, 8.

Science Gossip.

SIR WILLIAM THOMSON and Dr. Siemens are delegated by the English Government to the International Congress of Electricians at Paris. The principal purpose of the congress will be the consideration of a universal system of electric and magnetic measures as advocated by the British Association.

SIR HENRY BESSEMER, Sir John Anderson, Sir R. M. Stephenson, Sir Joseph Whitworth, Mr. Charles Manby, and others have opened a new College of Practical Engineering at Muswell Hill. The principal of the college is Mr. John Bourne, whose works on engineering are well known.

LEONARDO DA VINCI appears to have applied the screw propeller at the end of the fifteenth century to aerial locomotion. The uncovering of the monument to Sauvage, who is believed to have been the first who practically applied the screw propeller to the driving of ships through the water, has given rise to a discussion of the true history of the propeller. The *Comptes Rendus* for August 29th gives Leonardo's screw as applied by him to aerial navigation.

MR. BÜTTGENBACH, of the Lintorf lead mines near Düsseldorf, has devised a disintegrator which separates zinc blende and pyrites ore with great nicety. By specific gravity this cannot be effected, but the difference in the cohesive force of the two minerals enables Mr. Büttgenbach to crush the zinc ore to a fine sand and leave the pyrites in its original volume, so that they can be separated by a sieve.

M. DE CHARDONNET read a paper before the Académie des Sciences on the 29th of August on the absorption of the ultra-violet rays by some media. In this he shows that the liquids which circulate in plants or impregnate roots and fruits show a great avidity for the chemical rays, and that fluorescence does not appear to be in direct ratio to the intensity of actinic absorption.

WE have received the *Indian Meteorological Memoirs*, Part V. of Vol. I. Mr. T. A. Hill

contributes 'Some Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at Allahabad during Ten Years, 1870-79,' and Mr. Henry F. Blanford, the editor, has a memoir 'On the Diurnal Variation of the Barometer at Indian Stations.' These memoirs are accompanied by a daily record of all the principal meteorological phenomena for April, 1880, observed at Calcutta (Alipore), Lucknow, Lahore, Nagpur, Bombay, and Madras.

In the march of intellect rogues seem to keep well ahead and are ready enough to employ science in attaining their ends. Forgers in particular have always shown themselves keenly alive to new processes and inventions. Their ingenuity seems to keep pace with all attempts to baffle it which have of late years been suggested by photography and photo-chemical science. A branch of the Bank of Warsaw received the other day an example of a new device, which consists in splitting hundred-rouble notes, and uniting each side with the corresponding upper or under half of a false note.

THE Chinese Government has been recently making an examination of the harbour of Lushun-kou, or Port Arthur as it is called on foreign maps, with the view of ascertaining its capabilities as a war port for Northern China. Although small and not very deep, its position is excellent so far as the defence of the Gulf of Pechili is considered, and it is said, moreover, to be always free from ice. Gold, which is known to exist in many parts of Northern China, is abundant, both in the shape of gold dust and nuggets, in the valleys near Port Arthur. The well-known Peking bars, so much prized in India on account of their peculiar softness and purity, are for the most part made of Kirin gold dust.

FINE ARTS

DORE'S GREAT WORKS. 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM,' 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM,' and 'MOSES before PHARAOH,' each 20 by 22 feet, with 'Dream of Pilate's Wife,' 'Soldiers of the Cross,' 'A Day Dream,' 'Rainbow Landscape' (Loch Carron, Scotland), &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

'THE ENTOMBMENT.'

LAST week, p. 344, col. 2, referring to the famous unfinished picture, No. 790 in the National Gallery, we wrote that it had not been proved to be the work of Michael Angelo, although Signor Yriarte, thus following many critics, had not hesitated to ascribe it to that great master, but had averred that it is his first work. In writing thus we did not depart from opinions which have been many times expressed in this journal, before and since the painting passed from the collection of the late Lord Taunton into that of the nation. Years ago it was the subject of lively controversies, and by one party was awarded to M. Angelo, by a second to Ghirlandajo, by a third to Mantegna, by a fourth to Pollaiuolo, by a fifth to Verocchio, and by others to various painters, all of whom were more or less unlikely to have produced it.

Mr. J. C. Robinson, to whom the world owes much on account of his pre-eminent share in forming the South Kensington Museum, and who has been marvellously fortunate in discovering old masters' drawings, and has furnished many private cabinets with the newly found specimens, has boldly, in the *Times* of the 1st inst., put forth a new idea of the authorship of the 'Entombment,' and, on the strength of a passage in Vasari and his own convictions as to the style displayed in the picture, has not hesitated to declare that Baccio Bandinelli was the artist to whom we owe what all admit to be a masterpiece. This assertion has been controverted by the Director of the National Gallery, and, with more emphasis, by Mr. Poynter, than whom no one is better qualified to discuss the technique of a work which has been given to Buonarroti, to whose honour he has devoted his studies with peculiar steadiness, force, and good fortune.

Mr. Burton defends the lines which Mr. Poynter has occupied, and, apart from technical inferences, has furnished some valuable notes on M. Angelo's studies in the direction of this picture, as shown by drawings in the Albertina and elsewhere. Mr. Robinson has renewed his attack and with needless acerbity, and, while asserting himself with even greater emphasis than usual, has repeated his opinion without strengthening it in any material degree.

The issue of this contest appears to us beyond question. Mr. Robinson seems to have adopted a meaning for Vasari's words which they were, we believe, never intended to convey, and, notwithstanding the proverbial dangers of such assertions, pledged himself to the effect that Baccio was capable of producing such a design as that in question, and that to Baccio this particular example is due. We think Mr. Robinson is mistaken in all respects. It is true that absolute proof of the claim on M. Angelo's behalf is lacking, but, notwithstanding the asseverations of Mr. Robinson, we still doubt if Bandinelli had genius enough to invent, or technical power enough to paint, anything so fine as this picture. That it is due to one who was trained as a sculptor is an obvious fact which suits either side in the discussion; but it seems out of the question that it should have been produced by Baccio, on whose art Cellini lavished condemnatory phrases which erred in the degree of their force rather than their nature. That this painting has all the characteristics of Michael Angelo's design, even the physical and physiognomical types, has been admitted by Mr. Robinson himself. We quite fail to see that it exhibits any of the types which Baccio employed. That artist's draughtsmanship is loose, not to say incorrect; his modelling is deficient in fruits of searching studies; his mode of composition has little or no compression; his groups, like the parts of his single figures, need coherence and concentration of the attitudes, actions, and, above all, of the motives they were designed to express. In short, Baccio's technical and mental grasp of his materials shows neither the completeness nor the spontaneity which glorify the picture in question, which in all these respects is absolutely antithetical to his work, and shows such transcendently grand expressions, such dignity and pathos of air and movement, as no one before Mr. Robinson has ventured to attribute to him. In regard to these qualities only the picture might be Verocchio's, might even be Donatello's; but that Baccio made it, and that a weak-kneed artist like Bigio had anything to do with it, is absolutely incredible. The art of a painter is never at variance with itself, as Mr. Robinson's assumptions with regard to the 'Entombment' would make that of Bandinelli to be. The works of an artist differ in the degrees of their meritoriousness, but they never differ radically and in kind, as Mr. Robinson would have us think. It is impossible to enter here into detailed criticisms of all the qualities displayed by this picture and one by one compare them with those which Messrs. Burton and Poynter, ourselves, and, so far as we know, all competent persons but Mr. Robinson, recognize in Michael Angelo's work, but the above are the general conclusions of hosts of experts in respect to the technical part of this discussion.

With regard to the words of Vasari, it is desirable to quote from the best edition of his text the passage which has been referred to. Here it is:—

"In questo medesimo tempo aveva preso [Baccio] a fare di pittura una tavola *assai* grande per la chiesa di Cestello, e n' aveva fatto un cartone molto bello, dentrovi Cristo morto e le Marie intorno e Nicodemo con altre figure: ma la tavola non dipinse per la cagione che di sotto diremo. Fece ancora in questo tempo un cartone per fare un quadro, dove era Cristo deposto di croce, tenuto in braccio da Nicodemo, e la Madre sua in piedi che lo piangeva, ed un Angelo che

teneva in mano i chiodi e la corona delle spine; e subito messosi a colorirlo, lo finì prestamente, e lo messe a mostra in Mercato nuovo su la bottega di Giovanni di Goro, orefice, amico suo, per intendere l'opinione degli uomini e quel che Michelagnolo ne diceva. Fu menato a vederlo Michelagnolo dal Piloto orefice; il quale, considerato che ebbe ogni cosa, disse che si maravigliava che Baccio, sì buono disegnatore, si lasciasse uscire di mano una pittura sì cruda e senza grazia; che aveva veduto ogni cattivo pittore condurre l'opere sue con miglior modo, e che questa non era arte per Baccio. Riferì il Piloto il giudizio di Michelagnolo a Baccio; il quale ancor che gli portasse odio, conosceva che diceva il vero. E certamente i disegni di Baccio erano bellissimi, ma co' colori gli conduceva male e senza grazia; perchè egli si risolvè a non depignere più di sua mano; ma tolse appresso di sé un giovane che maneggiava i colori assai acconciamente, chiamato Agnolo, fratello del Franciabigio pittore eccellente, che pochi anni innanzi era morto. A questo Agnolo *desiderava* di far condurre la tavola di Cestello; ma ella rimase imperfetta; di che fu cagione la mutazione dello stato in Firenze, la quale seguì l'anno 1527, quando i Medici si partirono di Firenze dopo il sacco di Roma," &c.—'Vita di Baccio Bandinelli,' ed. Le Monnier, x. 308.

It is mainly upon his own version of this passage that Mr. Robinson has based his theory. He translates the important part of this passage thus: "About this time [1526] he [Baccio] had undertaken to paint a large panel picture for the church of Cestello, and he made a very fine cartoon for it, the subject representing the dead Christ, with the *Virgin*, Nicodemus, and other figures around." We have italicized the word *assai*, which could not refer to such a work as that in the National Gallery, which is not more than 5 ft. 3 in. by 4 ft. 11 in., dimensions to which Vasari would never apply such a phrase. These are the actual measurements, although Mr. Robinson's letter of the 9th inst. states his conviction that the 'Entombment' is a "large panel picture," and therefore describable as "*assai grande*." Mr. Robinson has withdrawn his original reading of "*le Marie*," substituted "*the Maries*," and founded a new argument on this version, because there is more than one female figure in the disputed design. So far good. But the critic has not pointed out that Vasari gives no description of the composition, and, after all, merely mentions in a general way what figures it contained, and everybody knows that, according to a frequent practice of Italian painters, these comprised a "*Cristo morto*," the Maries, St. John, Nicodemus, &c. Sometimes these groups took the form of a deposition, sometimes of an entombment. Vasari does not say that he referred to an entombment, it might just as well have been a deposition.

In translating the passage, further, where Vasari tells of a *second* cartoon or picture—which, however, Mr. Robinson's first epistle does not connect with the National Gallery panel—he brings in the words "of similar subject," which are not represented in the Italian at all. Nor can it be said that other parts of his text have been fairly rendered from Vasari, e.g. he has omitted to account for the effect of *desiderava*, which makes a world of difference in the sense. But the rendering of "*dove era Cristo deposto di croce*," which we have emphasized, is very unfortunate indeed—in fact, suicidal—and was overlooked by Mr. Poynter in his reply. Mr. Robinson in the first instance was betrayed by characteristic hastiness into forgetting that Vasari refers to two works, only one of which is specifically designated, and which is certainly not the picture in the National Gallery. In his second letter two works are incidentally recognized.

Mr. Robinson's argument may be reduced to this—that Bandinelli employed a certain young painter to execute a *very large* picture on his design, which contained certain personages, and

which was never carried out, completely at least. Now in our gallery is a very moderate-sized unfinished painting containing the same personages. This is, therefore, we are told, the picture Vasari mentions! To imagine that Bigio, a tyro of the school of Del Sarto, painted in the manner of the 'Entombment' is quite out of our power, as it is beyond the power of Mr. Poynter to fancy such a thing. This notion must be left to condemn itself as effectually as does that other one which Mr. Robinson has evolved in his letter of the 9th inst., where he repeats his "certain conviction" that the 'Entombment' is a "comparatively early work" of Baccio's. In thus ascribing the picture to an artist who was comparatively young the writer agrees with everybody who has seen it. There is not a shadow of doubt about the immaturity of the powers of the man who produced this example. But it is surely one of the most unfortunate elements of Mr. Robinson's argument that he has brought himself to declare that a middle-aged man of thirty-nine years old, as he asserts Baccio must have been at the time he painted the 'Entombment,' if he produced it at all, could paint or design in the admittedly immature mode of the disputed example.

Mr. Robinson has demanded of Mr. Poynter how, supposing this picture to be by M. Angelo, it happens that no record or trace of its production has been found. Mr. Burton has anticipated this demand, and indicated a drawing by Buonarroti of a dead Christ in the Albertina Collection which "bears a resemblance to that in our picture of the 'Entombment' too close and striking to be accidental." This work is No. 28 of Herr Braun's autotypes from the Albertina drawings. We cannot repeat the cogent remarks of the Director of the National Gallery. Suffice it that they leave Mr. Robinson in an unpleasant dilemma. As to whether the 'Entombment' is in oil or distemper, a point on which Mr. Robinson lays great stress, any decision could only have a negative value. It has not been decided whether the picture is in either of these materials.

As to the unfinished condition of the 'Entombment,' that surely is no argument against its being by M. Angelo. Vasari told us that his master left many unfinished works. Why not this 'Entombment,' which Mr. Robinson admits to have all the characteristics of Buonarroti? Many other painters left works unfinished which exist to the present day, as Leonardo, Fra Bartolommeo, Giovanni Bellini, —by whom, by-the-by, as a distinguished correspondent reminds us, an unfinished work exists at Florence in the Uffizi, containing life-size, half-length figures of the very same personages as the 'Entombment' contains. The subject of the 'Entombment' was continually in M. Angelo's thoughts, as we know from numbers of his drawings still remaining, in some of which the very pose of the dead Saviour bears a striking resemblance to that in the National Gallery picture. In these designs he broke away from the more traditional mode of treating the subject, which was to represent the dead body extended on the ground, not foreshortened in a side view, as in Raphael's fine drawing now in the Louvre, or with the upper part of the corpse itself half raised and supported by one of the sacred personages, whilst the limbs are stretched out at full length, as, for instance, in Fra Bartolommeo's and Andrea del Sarto's well-known compositions in the Pitti Palace. Michael Angelo, on the contrary, in harmony with his sculptural views of art and in conformity with the necessities of sculpture, which require concentration of a group in the narrowest limits, brought in the chief figure of his several designs as seen from the front, and more or less foreshortened.

On the whole, we consider that Mr. Robinson has failed to establish his case by means of Vasari as well as by means of technical criticism.

We find the 'Entombment' to possess that superabundance of fibre in the design and in the execution which is conspicuous in all the works of Buonarroti, and wanting in those of Bandinelli and the scholars of Del Sarto. If not to Michael Angelo, we do not hesitate to ascribe it to Ghirlandajo, his teacher. It shows, we think, a compound of the powers of both painters such as could only be due to the youth of the former.

INDIAN MONOLITHS.

Simla, July 30, 1881.

I wish to call the attention of those interested in the subject to the series of huge monoliths situated between the provinces lying north of the Ganges, including the ancient Palliputra, and Nepal, as marking a road, and, in my opinion, clearly proving a royal intercourse between these kingdoms.

We have history to show that the erection of columns on roads was a common practice with the Magadha sovereigns, who reigned in that part of Hindustan through which the Ganges flows, and whose empire, under different dynasties, continued through eight centuries, i.e., from 350 B.C. to 450 A.D. Now the royal road from Palliputra to the Indus, with a column placed at each stage, is ascribed to the reign of Chhandr' Gupta, the most conspicuous monarch of the house of Gupta, as also the proudest among the Magadha rulers. But this must have been a very inferior work to that which formed the subject of this paper, as there is no trace of these columns left, whereas the monoliths from Palliputra to Nepal are *in situ*.

I was fortunate in visiting these monoliths last cold season, and here append a few remarks from my note-book on the subject. My illustrations of them, together with other antiquities, appear in the 'Archæological Report of 1880-81.'

It would appear from the position of these huge pillars that besides being destined merely to bear the edicts of Asoka (who reigned in the third century B.C.), which a number of them do, there might have been another and perhaps more important object which prompted their distribution over the country lying north of the Ganges river. At present the general design is simply two irregular lines, running north-west from Mozufferpur to Nepal on the east, and from Allahabad (the ancient Prayāg) to Nepal on the west. The monoliths take a north-easterly direction, so that both lines run to a tangent at a village called Rāmpūrwa, or within a few miles of the Nepal frontier.

We will now follow the eastern series, commencing with that of Bakhra (Mozufferpur district) first, Urrarāj second, Lauriyanavāndgarh third, and Rāmpūrwa fourth (Champaran district). On the other hand we have a line running north-east from Allahabad (North-West Provinces) to Nepal. The first monolith of this series is in Allahabad or Prayāg, the second in the village of Bhitari (Gazepur district), third in the city of Bhāgalpur, on the banks of the Ghogra river, fourth in the village of Kahāon or Kahong (Gorakhpur district), and fifth in Rāmpūrwa, before mentioned. The three pillars of Bakhra, Urrarāj, and Lauriyanavāndgarh follow the direction of the Gandak river as nearly as possible, and are more equally divided than those of the west route, for on the west there is a distance of about seventy-five miles in a direct line between the monoliths of Kahāon and Rāmpūrwa. This distance greatly exceeds the space between any other of the pillars above named, and would lead to a supposition that there was originally another column, which might have been situated somewhere about the north-east boundary of the Gorakhpur district. If this column, which would complete the two lines, ever existed, it has been entirely demolished, for the most strenuous search has failed to discover the smallest fragment of it. Another column which I fear will shortly disappear is that of Bhāgalpur, owing to its close proximity to the Ghogra river; indeed, it was in danger

of being washed away by the tide about a year ago.

From the above I would infer that the distribution of these monoliths in the various places they now occupy has not been promiscuous, but rather that their proximity to each other is the result of a regular design, but for what purpose it would be difficult to surmise. Perhaps the pillars were placed to mark out a high road into Nepal, and they might with equal probability have been arranged to commemorate some great march. However, it is not necessary to fathom the exact cause, and, indeed, it would be almost impossible to do so. The effect shown with sufficient clearness that the situation of these two lines of columns has not been decided by accident.

It will be seen that I have called each pillar by the name of the village in which it stands, this being the plan hitherto adopted for naming these antiquities in order to distinguish one from the other, and I think the same plan will serve well to identify these columns in the following short description of them. By the natives the erection of a number of them is ascribed to one or other of the Panch Pandu, or "Five Pandu Brothers," Bhim being most often cited; hence the columns at Bakhra, Lauriyanavāndgarh, &c., are called Bhim-sen-ka-lāt, or "Bhim's column." Those of Bakhra, Lauriyanavāndgarh, and Rāmpūrwa are crowned with couchant lions, surmounting bell-shaped capitals, and resemble each other in many other respects; the Urrarāj pillar has lost its capital entirely, and presents merely a cylindrical appearance. The Kahāon column has also lost the upper member of its capital, and, in a niche formed to receive it, there stands a nude male figure. This pillar is counted of Jain origin by able authorities. The Bhāgalpur pillar is extremely simple in design, its capital being of a conoid form; that of Bhitari is surmounted by the Asoka-fashioned bell capital, similar to those before named, though perhaps of later date, being narrower; and it is a generally accepted theory that the earlier capitals were more squat in form and much broader, though I must confess I think those which belong to a later period by far the most graceful. This capital in all probability supported some device, perhaps a lion's figure, which supposition induced the authorities some time ago to add the figure of a lion to the monolith at Prayāg. This work has since been severely criticized, as the lion is pronounced to be too small and badly executed.

It would be a difficult task to ascertain the exact height of these pillars, as a great portion has buried itself in the earth. That of Lauriyanavāndgarh is at present 32 ft. 9½ in. high, with a diameter at base of 35½ in. This is apparently the tallest monolith of the above series, though perhaps that of Rāmpūrwa may exceed it; but being in a prostrate position, and for the most part buried in the ground, I was unable to obtain its dimensions. However, from the appearance of that portion unearthed by my excavations, I should be inclined to regard it as the largest.

For want of space it is quite impossible to dwell at length on the artistic merit displayed on these columns, which in itself would form ample matter for a volume; nor is a detailed account the object of this letter; my wish is merely to call attention to the situation of the above mentioned monoliths, which have been hitherto prized only for the inscriptions which they bear, and admired in the light of antique sculptures.

H. B. W. GARRICK,

Assist. Archæological Surveyor of India.

Five-Act Gossip.

THE report of the appointment of Mr. Thomas Armstrong as Art Director at South Kensington needs confirmation, and under any circumstances can only be regarded as referring to an experiment as well as to a possible difficulty in filling

the post which so thoroughly educated an artist as Mr. Poynter has occupied. The alleged choice of Mr. Sparkes as Principal of the Art Training School is undoubtedly satisfactory. Of this gentleman's fitness and experience not a shadow of doubt exists.

MR. J. C. ROBINSON, in the discussion about the 'Entombment,' has said that some wonderfully fine drawings by Baccio are in his hands. It is to be hoped that the Keeper of the Prints will promptly treat with him for their purchase by the nation, lest Mr. Malcolm, or some other wealthy collector, should secure them.

The Corporation of Liverpool has bought for 1,500*l.* the large picture by Mr. Rossetti called 'Dante's Dream,' to which we have repeatedly alluded. It will remain a distinguishing element of the Walker Art Gallery of the city.

WE read with grief and shame that it has been thought needful to protest against the desecration, in order to "utilize" the place as a cart-shed, of the beautiful Priory Chapel of St. Leonard at Stamford, one of the masterpieces of English Gothic architecture. If such a work of art as this is to be destroyed in order to save the cost of building a new cart-shed, what can be said of the results of the expenditure of millions in the art education of the English? Surely the town of Stamford or the county of Lincoln would build a cart-shed for the owner of the chapel rather than allow him to destroy a structure which is not only beautiful, but associated with the history of the place.

It is intended to pull down the ugly old houses which now conceal a considerable portion of the noble church of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, which has been for some time under restoration by Mr. Street. This demolition will be an immense improvement.

Most English students of architecture, scientific and æsthetic, will hear with pleasure that Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. will very shortly publish the second volume of Mr. Bucknall's translation of Viollet-le-Duc's 'Lectures on Architecture,' with the illustrations of the original version and an index. We noticed the first volume several years ago, and now look forward with pleasure to the task of commending this admirable summary of the philosophy of structural design.

WE learn that the solid silver mitre and crozier of Bishop Wren (bishop successively of Hereford, Norwich, and Ely), uncle to Sir Christopher Wren, recently brought to light at Pembroke College, Cambridge, will be carefully illustrated in the October number of the *Reliquary*, from drawings made specially for the purpose. These valuable historical relics have not hitherto been engraved or noticed.

A SERIES of apocalyptic cartoons will shortly be published by Mr. T. W. Greenwell.

THE Liverpool Art Club will shortly open an exhibition of pictures in oil by artists of this country born before 1800, which is likely to be interesting because it will contain about two hundred and fifty examples of choice kinds, well displayed in the excellent gallery of the society. The Duke of Westminster has lent three large works by Stubbs.

MR. R. SEWELL, of the Indian Civil Service, who has lately been employed on special archaeological duty in the Madras Presidency in collecting copper-plate inscriptions from the various public offices, has reported that he has nearly completed his task. He has carefully gone through and noted the contents of 174 plates sent for examination, some of them of great historical value. A list will be published in due course. All the volumes relating to the archaeology of Southern India to be found at the Government office, Madras, have been carefully examined and noted upon by him. His final report may be looked for with some interest.

THE erection of a memorial window in Dunfermline Abbey to the late Dean Stanley has

been mooted in Scotland, and the proposal has received the support of Principal Tulloch. A somewhat peculiar example of monumental commemoration in Scotland may be mentioned here, viz., the erection of a cross in the parish of Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire, to St. Conal, on the model of one of the Iona crosses. The cross, which has just been placed, is nine feet high, and bears the following inscription, "St. Conal, A.D. 612-652."

Two large water-colour drawings of the recent volunteer review at Edinburgh have been executed by Mr. W. A. Donnelly, of Glasgow, one of the *Illustrated London News* staff. These pictures, which have been exhibited to her Majesty, are to be published in chromo-lithography by a London firm.

IN the course of the restoration of St. Giles's, Edinburgh, an arched recess has been discovered in the north wall of the Albany aisle, which was built by the Duke of Albany and the fourth Earl of Douglas as an expiation for the death of the Duke of Rothesay. This arched recess is eight feet high and seven feet wide, with a depth of two or three feet. On the front of the arch is an exceedingly fine moulding of the thirteenth century, but it is more than half destroyed. Dr. Chambers has ordered the restoration of the moulding, and intends to place a recumbent figure in white marble of the Duke of Rothesay in the recess.

THE Glasgow Archaeological Society last week visited Dumfries. The members who were able to join the party were received by the local Natural History and Antiquarian Society. After inspecting the "Siller-Gun," the old bridge built by Devorgilla, the site of the monastery where Bruce killed the Red Comyn, and other places of interest, the party drove to Caerlaverock Castle, eight miles distant, visiting on the way the grave of Pateson, the "Old Mortality" of Sir Walter Scott. A paper was read at Caerlaverock on the family history of its proprietors.

THE forthcoming part of the *Journal* of the British Archaeological Association will contain, among other papers, the following of interest:— 'The Ethnology of Wiltshire illustrated in Place-Names,' by Sir J. A. Picton; 'Apocryphal Legends,' by Mr. E. M. Thompson, Keeper of the British Museum Manuscripts; 'Notice of Prehistoric Remains near Tealing in Forfarshire,' by Mr. J. Romilly Allen; 'Knitting-Sheaths,' by Mr. R. S. Ferguson; 'Remains found at Reading Gas-works,' by Mr. J. Stevens; 'Ptolemy's Measurements of the South Coast,' by Mr. H. Bradley; 'Antiquities at Higham in Kent,' by Mr. T. Morgan; and 'Historical Notes on the Land's End,' by the Rev. W. S. Lach-Szyrma, Vicar of Newlyn.

WE record with regret the early death of Mr. Henry William Henfrey, a gentleman well known in numismatic circles. He was the author of a very useful handbook to the British coinage and of the 'Numismata Cromwelliana.' One of his latest productions was a very exhaustive monograph on the coinage of the Norwich Mint, published in the *Journal* of the British Archaeological Association. To the *Numismatic Chronicle* Mr. Henfrey was a frequent contributor.

THE selected masterpieces of current French art which have long adorned the walls of the Luxembourg are in future to have briefer tenure of their places in that world-famous establishment. It has been determined that the decennial shifting of pictures, which has until now affected the second-rate examples only, and thus made room for new ones, shall be extended to all, so that while the nobler specimens are deposited in the Louvre and less remarkable ones are relegated to the provincial galleries, the whole space will be available for fresher examples.

It is reported that the authorities of the Musée de Cluny are in treaty for the purchase from a well-known Belgian amateur of his large and fine collection of Persian ceramic ware. At present the South Kensington Museum contains

the richest, if not also the largest, collection of this faience. Should the Paris museum be enriched in the manner suggested, the English gathering will lose the laurel.

ACCORDING to some of the French journals, three Belgian art critics of reputation have assailed M. Jean Van Beers on account of his pictures 'Lily' and 'La Sirène,' which we admired in the last *Salon*, and which are now in the exhibition at Brussels. The assailants allege that the painter has employed photography in a nefarious and entirely illegitimate manner in the production of these works, so that, it is averred, they are neither more nor less than photographs deftly coloured, and worth only a few francs instead of the considerable prices set upon them by M. Van Beers. The allegations in question were put forward in a very lively manner and without compromise as to terms and style. One or more of the writers averred that traces of photography are observable in parts of the pictures, which are, undoubtedly, finished in the most exquisite manner. The writers did not hesitate to use hard names. M. Van Beers has replied to his foes very tersely, and stated that the price of 'La Sirène' is 20,000 fr., that of 'Lily' 10,000 fr. He will allow properly qualified experts, French or foreign, to scrape (*gratter*) either of the pictures. If the least trace of photography is found by this means the artist will immediately pay the value of the picture in question, which sum he will deposit in advance with any banker named by his antagonists. If, on the other hand, no traces of photography are discovered, M. Van Beers will expect that the critics will give the value of the picture to the Benevolent Society of Artists at Brussels.

A WELL-KNOWN French critic says, in the *Republique Française*, that shortly will be presented to the courts of law an appeal against a former decision relating to the illustrated catalogue of the pictures belonging to the Baron de Beurnonville, which, as we reported, were sold in Paris not long ago. Adopting the fashion of so indicating the character of the paintings to be disposed of, the owner employed several well-known engravers to produce, at a price agreed on, fifty etchings of as many works. His surprise was great on receiving the plates to find that they were but feeble renderings of the originals. In reply to remonstrances the engravers alleged that the sum given for each plate was so trifling that they could not afford to do better. The engravers went to law and claimed 26,000 fr. damages; the judges awarded them 2,400 fr., a sum which, of course, was either too much or too little. Hence the intended appeal.

THE fine church at Merville (Nord) has been completely destroyed by fire, so far as regards its interior and roof. The church was built in 1414, and in 1581 ravaged by the Huguenots; restored by Jacques Vasseur, "maitre charpentier," in 1594, it has since been greatly admired on account of the beauty of the lower portion of the nave, which illustrates the purest mode of the fifteenth century.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"The Italians continue to meddle with the frescoes in the Campo Santo at Pisa. A scaffolding is now standing before one of the frescoes of Benozzo Gozzoli. The passage of the Red Sea in this series has just been restored in a coarse and unintelligent manner."

THE journals of Bologna report the theft from the library of the University of some of Albert Dürer's fine etchings. Common impressions from the plates are said to have been substituted for choice ones.

THE style displayed in the distempers representing the Last Judgment, recently discovered in the Cathedral of Ulm, is said to be severe and characteristic of German art during the fifteenth century; they bear the date 1470.

PANORAMAS have been in vogue on the Continent for some time past, and, as we know, have, after obscurity for many years, reappeared

in London. At Antwerp may now be seen a very attractive and instructive example, being a view of the place during the sixteenth century, with all its picturesque towers and pinnacles. It is the work of four artists of the ancient city, Heeren Dumont, De Metzter, Peeters, and Van Dyck.

THE public gallery of Antwerp has, besides the important Rubens to which we have already alluded, acquired during the past year the under-mentioned paintings of exceptional merit: 'Le Duo,' by D. Teniers, bought for 13,750 francs; a good and characteristic Wouwermans; 'La Partie de Cartes,' by Brauwer, a highly finished and spirited work; a large and finely representative picture by Weenix, including a cock and other birds, and a little red dog; 'Intérieur d'Eglise,' by P. Neefs; 'Troupe de Cavaliers occupant un Village,' by Van Hugtenberg; 'Vénus et l'Amour,' by W. Van Mieris; 'Nymphes,' in a landscape, by C. Van Poelemborg; and a 'Portrait de Femme,' by an unknown Dutch painter.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

WORCESTER.—Festival of the Three Choirs.

CONTINUING our report of the festival of the three choirs, it is first our duty to recognize the liberal spirit which prompted the authorities at Worcester to introduce into the programme of Wednesday morning, as mentioned last week, Beethoven's Symphony in c minor. Such an innovation can hardly be too strongly commended. There can be nothing incongruous in the introduction into a quasi-sacred service of one of the highest and purest forms of musical art. Movements from the symphonies of Beethoven and other great masters are continually played in church as voluntaries on the organ; nor, so far as we are aware, has any objection ever been raised to them. The performance of an entire symphony in a cathedral is simply another step in the same direction; and unless music either carries in itself or indirectly suggests secular associations, we see no possible reason why it should not be pressed into the service of the temple.

The performance on the Wednesday evening, which was given in the cathedral, consisted of Beethoven's 'Engedi' and the first two parts of Haydn's 'Creation.' The work known as 'Engedi' is an adaptation to a new text of Beethoven's oratorio 'The Mount of Olives.' The adaptation was made many years ago by Dr. Hudson, to meet the scruples of a portion of the English public who objected to a libretto in which the part of Christ was treated dramatically. While making every allowance for the feelings of the authorities at Worcester, we cannot help expressing our regret that they did not on the present occasion adopt the bolder course of presenting the oratorio in its original form. Bach's 'Passion' according to Matthew is a work which is often performed in our cathedrals; and, to the best of our knowledge, no objection has ever been raised to it, though in it the very words of Christ are sung by a separate personage, and the treatment is quite as dramatic as in 'The Mount of Olives.' We fail to see any reason for making a distinction; and the music necessarily suffers greatly from the entire change in its surroundings. The performance of the work, as also of Haydn's masterpiece,

was on the whole very good, the solos in Beethoven's oratorio being sung by Madame Albani, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. F. King; and in the 'Creation' by Madame Albani, Miss Annie Marriott, Mr. Joseph Maas, and Mr. Henschel.

Unquestionably the greatest success of the festival, from a musical point of view, was scored on the Thursday morning, when Cherubini's superb Mass in D minor and Mendelssohn's 'Lobgesang' were given. Of the former work we spoke at some length on the occasion of its performance last year by the Bach Choir (*Athenæum*, No. 2739); but it must be admitted that in a cathedral the music produces even a greater effect than in a concert hall. The ideal, almost seraphic, beauty of such solo movements as the "Christe eleison," the "Gratias agimus," the "Et incarnatus," and the "Benedictus," the grandeur and dignity of the choral writing, and the masterly counterpoint of the fugues, left an impression on those present of which it is hopeless to try to convey an idea in words. The performance of the mass deserves unstinted praise. Mr. Done had taken great pains in preparing the music, and he must have felt amply rewarded for his trouble. In the opening "Kyrie," it must be allowed, the chorus left something to desire; but they soon warmed to their work, and from the "Gloria" to the close the singing was magnificent. The solos were rendered by Madame Albani, Miss Anna Williams, Madame Patey, and Messrs. E. Lloyd, Dyson, and Henschel. Mr. Done's tempi were throughout most judicious; and the warmest thanks of musicians are due to him for the opportunity afforded of hearing again one of the monumental works in the domain of ecclesiastical music. Of the 'Lobgesang' it will suffice to say that the performance was, on the whole, excellent, and that Madame Albani, Miss Anna Williams, and Mr. Lloyd shared the solo music.

The second miscellaneous concert, given on the Thursday evening in the College hall, may be dismissed in a few words. The greater part of the evening was occupied by Mr. J. F. Barnett's cantata 'The Building of the Ship,' conducted by the composer. We have already spoken of this work, on the occasion of its production at the Leeds festival last October, and on its performance at Mr. Barnett's concert in London in May, and we need only record the fact that it was well rendered and favourably received. The honours in the miscellaneous second part of the concert were carried off by Miss Annie Marriott, who sang "Ocean, thou mighty monster," from 'Oberon,' admirably.

The ever-attractive 'Messiah' drew a crowded audience to the cathedral on the Friday morning; and the festival concluded, as it had begun, with a special service in the evening, at which a "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis" by the Rev. E. Vine Hall, precentor of the cathedral, Handel's Coronation Anthem, "The king shall rejoice," and Mozart's motet, "O God, when thou appearest," were the chief musical features. At the close of the service Dr. Bridge, the organist of Westminster Abbey, gave, by request, a performance on the large organ in the nave. In spite of some shortcomings, the festival now ended may be pronounced not unworthy of the repu-

tation of the three choirs. The influence for good exercised by these meetings is doubtless considerable, and it is a cause for congratulation that the cloud which at one time overhung them has passed completely away.

A WAGNER CYCLE.

Munich, Sept. 13, 1881.

THE performance of 'Lohengrin' on the 7th inst. may be dismissed with a few lines. Neither Herr Nachbaur as the Knight of the Grail nor Frau Wekerlin as Elsa reached the stage of excellence which may be considered necessary to the ideal representation of the characters in this highly poetic work; but Herr Reichmann was vocally and dramatically admirable as Teldamund, and in the hands of Frau Vogl the part of Ortrud became the most striking of the drama. Herr Kindermann's impersonation of the King also deserves honourable mention. The general performance was noteworthy in two respects: first, because of the attention paid to the minutiae of stage management, so that, as in 'Tannhäuser,' the eye and the intellect were never offended by any awkwardness or incongruity in the arrangements; and, secondly, because the score was given in its integrity from first to last. The tendency of late has been to restore some of the music needlessly excised when the work was first given in London, but there are still certain passages omitted, chiefly in the second act, which greatly add to the effectiveness of the ensemble. It should also be noted that the choruses are sung here not only with much expression but perfectly in tune, showing that the accusation frequently brought against Wagner's music of being unvoiced is at least exaggerated.

On Saturday the interest of the cycle culminated with the performance of 'Tristan and Isolde,' and the event was marked by a large accession of visitors; among the musicians present being M. Lamoureux, Herr Klindworth, Mr. Walter Bache, Mr. W. Ganz, Mr. Villiers Stanford, and Mr. C. A. Barry. Although the time of commencement was earlier than usual, the theatre was quite filled before the curtain rose, and the deep silence maintained throughout the performance betokened the absorbing interest felt by the audience. To give a lucid description within a moderate amount of space of this wonderful work is a task of no ordinary difficulty. An essay might be appropriately written on the divers versions of the story upon which Wagner has founded his graphic poem, but for the present it will be more useful to dwell upon the salient features of his unique music-drama rather than to consider generalities. 'Tristan and Isolde' is, perhaps, his most representative work, 'Der Ring des Nibelungen' not excepted. It was written in the full maturity of his genius, and at once established a line of demarcation between himself and other composers. We may possibly trace external influences in his earlier operas, but in 'Tristan' the individuality of the man is stamped on every bar. The drama and the music are so firmly united that it will be best to avoid any attempt to sever them, even in description. The introduction, formed on one theme, indicative of the fatal love potion, and treated with an extraordinary degree of passion, has been heard several times in the concert-room. There is a sequence of notes here which also occurs in Berlioz's 'Scène d'Amour,' but the effect in performance is altogether different. The rising of the curtain shows Isolde's hurried retreat on board the vessel which is carrying her an unwilling bride to King Marke. The voice of a young sailor, unaccompanied, is heard without, singing of his home and kin in Ireland. One phrase in this wild, plaintive melody continually recurs whenever any reference is made to the voyage, and may be termed the sea motive. Isolde laments her fate in unmeasured terms, and then, exhausted, calls

upon her friend and attendant, Brangäne, to draw aside the curtain for air. There is displayed the deck of the vessel, with the manly figure of Tristan standing by the helm. Isolde is especially angered with him, as she has discovered that he is the slayer of her lover Morold. She sends Brangäne with a haughty message, stating that she desires his service. But he declines to leave the helm, as the ship is close to land, and this refusal rouses her to an extremity of rage. Her mother, who was skilled in magic arts, has provided her with a love philtre for herself and King Marke, and also with a deadly poison in case of an urgent desire for death. This draught she determines to share with Tristan, in a speech of great power, the effect of which is heightened by the graphic music. In marked contrast are the songs of the sailors and the frank and cheerful words of Kurwenal, Tristan's devoted servant, who comes to inform the women that the voyage is all but ended. Under pretence that she wishes to drink with Tristan a cup of atonement and forgiveness, she induces the knight to come to her. His entry is marked by a striking figure in the orchestra, which seems to say, "This is a hero; note him well." There is a lengthy scene between the pair, and the noble nature of Tristan is distinctly shown. Brangäne, who loves her mistress and admires Tristan, contrives to exchange the poisoned draught for the love potion, and it is drained by them both. At this moment the full orchestra gives forth the leading theme *fortissimo*, and then continues softly as the effect of the drink is displayed. The pair at first stand gazing at each other in wondering amazement, as if a new world had opened before their eyes, then are insensibly drawn closer and closer, and at last embrace passionately, regardless that the ship is in port, and that the sailors are shouting their homage to King Marke. This climax is indeliberately original in its effect, and is only equalled by others from the same hand. The second act takes place in a garden adjacent to Isolde's apartments. A light is burning at the door, the extinguishing of which is to be the signal for Tristan to approach. But the sound of horns from Marke and his retainers is heard in the distance, and Isolde's impatience is expressed by the quicker movement of the last theme in the orchestra. At last, when the horns are silent, Isolde dashes the light to the earth and waves her scarf frantically as Tristan draws near. The music rises to a pitch of indescribable agitation, the charmed lovers fly into each other's arms, and then commences the most impassioned and sensuous love duet ever composed. At first all is excitement, but gentler feelings gradually prevail, the music meanwhile losing its tempestuous character and becoming tender and languorous. The next section, commencing with the words, "O sink' hernieder, Nacht der Liebe," has been heard and appreciated in London. When the pair, exalted by their own emotions, are overcome for a while by slumber, Brangäne's warning voice is heard without, the effect with the low throbbing harmonies of the orchestra being surpassingly beautiful. Soon they awake, and complain of the approaching day which, like death, must destroy their bliss. Wagner has here accompanied his own eloquent words by a new theme which recurs at the close of the opera. Gradually the mingled ecstasy and pain of the guilty pair increase until a tremendous climax is reached, when Marke and his followers, apprised by Tristan's false friend Melot, rush in. The king, strangely enough, does not seek the life of the man who has dishonoured him, but indulges in a lengthy expostulation, which seems at first acquaintance to be the one weak point of the opera. Melot, however, attacks Tristan, who throughout has betrayed a keen sense of his own perfidy and a desire for death; though impelled by the course he is pursuing by the potency of the love philtre. He therefore only feigns

defence, and falls, severely wounded. In the third act we are in the courtyard of Tristan's castle in Brittany. Kurwenal has nursed him with the utmost care, and now stands over him watching the struggle between life and death. He has despatched a messenger for Isolde, and hourly expects her arrival. A shepherd is set to watch on the hill, and the melancholy notes of his pipe (corno inglese) mingle appropriately with the scene. After the striking situations of the previous act a duet between the hero and his attendant might easily have been a falling off; but Wagner's genius has triumphed over the difficulty, and the ravings of the wounded man together with the earnest solicitation of the single-hearted Kurwenal have been woven into a most effective scene. The arrival of the ship bearing Isolde, the horrible realism of the episode where Tristan tears the bandage off his wounds, and the coming of King Marke, who has learned from Brangäne the true state of the case, are among the most exciting points of the work; and then comes the wonderful death scene of Isolde, of which those who have only heard it in the concert room can form but a very imperfect idea. Regarding the immense power of characterization, the merits of Wagner's verse, and the extraordinary richness and complication of the scoring, criticism in detail must be reserved until another occasion. But a few words are absolutely necessary concerning the performance. In a work of this elaborate nature the conductor is the person next in importance to the composer, and Herr Lewi—whose name, oddly enough, is not given in the advertisements and bills—must be congratulated upon the absolute perfection which characterized the interpretation. Finer orchestral playing has never been heard. Equal praise is due to the splendid impersonation of the principal characters by Herr and Frau Vogl. These great artists seemed as if inspired by their work, and in voice, appearance, and dramatic force and intelligence they were each unsurpassable. Herr Fuchs as Kurwenal was also excellent, and the other characters had suitable representatives. The enthusiasm displayed after each act was immense, the performers being recalled no less than seventeen times. Notice of the performance of 'Die Meistersinger' must be reserved until next week; but it may be as well to state once more that the Wagner cycle is to be repeated from the 15th to the 26th inst.

H. F. F.

Musical Gossip.

AN English opera season was opened last Saturday at the Globe Theatre by Mr. J. Heslop with Planquette's popular 'Les Cloches de Corneville,' in the English adaptation of Messrs. Farnie and Reece. The performance is distinguished by the excellence of its *ensemble*, every part being well sustained. The cast includes the names of Misses Fanny Heywood, Irene Verona, and May Tudor, and Messrs. Wilford Morgan, F. Darrell, James Neville, James Danvers, and Shiel Barry. A really admirable chorus of about forty carefully selected voices has been engaged, and a small but efficient orchestra, conducted by Mr. Goossens, does full justice to Planquette's graceful instrumentation. The opera is well mounted; and it may be honestly said that Mr. Heslop's venture deserves the support of the public.

A six weeks' course of practical training for choirmasters and music teachers has just been concluded at the Tonic Sol-fa College, Forest Gate. Not only are the students instructed in harmony, singing, voice management, elocution, reading music at sight, and recognizing chords by ear, but they give lessons which are criticized by their fellow students and by the teachers. The lecturers have included Messrs. Curwen, Proudman, McNaught, Venables, G. Oakley, Mus. Bac., W. C. Harris, F. T. Harris, B.Sc., Arthur J. Kestin, and Herr Behnke. Students

from Scotland, Wales, and various parts of England were present.

'A WIND SONG,' the words by Alfred Norris and the music by Berthold Tours, will appear in the *Leisure Hour* for October.

MDLLE. SEMBRICH has lately been in Paris, studying, under the guidance of the composer, the part of Ophelia in Thomas's 'Hamlet,' before her departure for St. Petersburg.

VERDI'S 'Aida,' which on its first production at Vienna was but coolly received, has so gained in popularity that its hundredth performance in that city will be given in the course of the present month.

THE *Musikalisches Wochenblatt* announces, on the authority of a letter from Bayreuth, that the cast of Wagner's 'Parsifal' is now definitely settled, and that the following artists will take part in it:—Kundry, Fräulein Brandt, Frau Materna, and Frau Vogl; Amfortas, Herr Beck, jun., and Herr Reichmann; Parsifal, Herr Jäger, Herr Vogl, and Herr Winkelmann; Klingsor, Herr Hill; Gurnemanz, Herr Scaria and Herr Siehr; Titirel, Herr Kindermann; Chief of the Flower-maidens, Fräulein Lilli Lehmann.

HEINRICH HOFMANN'S new opera, 'William of Orange,' will shortly be published by Breitkopf & Härtel, of Leipzig. The first performance of the work is to be given in January at Hamburg.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

PRINCESS'S.—'The Lights o' London,' a Drama in Five Acts. By George R. Sims.

RESPECTABLE in its way as accomplishment, Mr. Sims's melo-drama is noteworthy for the promise it affords of still higher work. While aiming at nothing more than a reproduction in a new shape of incidents which may be regarded as stock properties, it arranges these in combinations so novel and effective that a sense of something like originality is awoke. As the story is, moreover, narrated in language which has a pleasant flavour of satire, and as the illustrations afforded are characteristic and appropriate, the whole may claim a position in advance of its apparent pretensions.

Mr. Sims has sought to interest the public in a display of the scenes with which they are assumedly most familiar, and with a faithful reproduction of what is most common and also most dramatic in the ordinary aspect of every-day life. A veritable *cour des miracles* is the scene in "the Borough" on a Saturday night to which he introduces us, with its various types of all that is most dangerous, dissipated, and disorderly in the lowest strata of social life. Scenes like this are familiar in such pieces as the 'Streets of London,' with which the 'Lights o' London' has a little in common. A passion, however, such as we recall in no previous work of the class, thrills through the whole, and this, with the aid of admirable stage arrangement, produces an effect which, in its way, is irresistible. So faithful a reproduction of a street riot and such animated tableaux of individual action are afforded that the method of the Dutch and German comedians who have recently visited us is recalled. That our stage managers are sensible enough to profit by opportunities afforded them of studying the principles of their art is, of course, of happy augury for our stage. It is at least certain that no previous piece of this class has presented with a fidelity so

creditable and an animation so exhilarating scenes such as are now once more put upon the stage.

In themselves Mr. Sims's materials, which are extracted from his story of 'Rogues and Vagabonds,' published in *One and All*, are, as has been said, commonplace. A youth of good family deprived of his birthright by the machinations of a kinsman, and sent through the same agencies into penal servitude for a crime of which he is innocent, can scarcely claim to be wholly a novelty, and the adventures of escaped convicts have been a favourite subject with novelists and dramatists since the appearance of Mr. Moy Thomas's spirited romance 'A Fight for Life.' In work of this class, however, treatment is everything, and it is difficult to imagine scenes more stirring in their class than are obtained in the course of the play. The dialogue is pointed and effective, and free from all appearance of strain, and the entire work may claim to be of far more than average merit.

In the general representation an advance upon previous performances of melo-drama is visible, and there are portions of the action which are as good as they can well be. Miss Eastlake, who has been principally known in connexion with a lighter class of production—indeed, with the lightest class—displays great earnestness and pathos in the rather arduous part of the heroine; and Mr. Wilson Barrett as the hero exhibits an amount of intensity of which he scarcely seemed capable. Mrs. Stephens, now the cleverest "old woman" on the stage, has a character part in which she is quite delightful; and Mr. Willard, an actor likely to be better known in London, plays the villain with a mixture of cynicism and passion that is wholly unconventional and thoroughly effective. One scene such as that in the last act, where the hero and his arch-enemy fight with a vigour of rage such as we cannot recall upon the stage, is in itself sufficient to establish the fortune of the piece. There is, however, enough basis of merit to render the whole independent of any single effect.

Dramatic Gossip.

MADAME MODJESKA has commenced a series of farewell performances at the Crystal Palace, in the course of which she will appear as Juliet and Frou-Frou.

MISS LITTON has broken her connexion with Drury Lane Theatre. The character she played in 'Youth' is now taken by Miss Barry.

A NEW comedy by Mr. George R. Sims, the author of 'Lights o' London,' has been read at the Vaudeville Theatre. Its provisional title is 'The Halfway House.'

FOR purposes of reference the total destruction of the Park Theatre deserves to be chronicled in the *Athenæum*. The fire, which consumed the entire edifice, took place on the morning of Sunday last.

MR. D'OLY CARTE's new "Savoy" Theatre will be opened at the end of the month with 'Patience,' for which new scenery has been painted.

AN attempt has been made to raise the Théâtre Déjazet into a home of high-class drama, and a four-act comedy of M. Edouard Cadol, author of 'Les Inutiles,' entitled 'Nos Fils,' has been chosen for the commencement of the experiment. It was fairly successful.

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